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# ARAB TIMES

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Two military personnel injured Troops on the island fire back at gunboats Tehran aggression deeply deplored

## Iran attacks Bubiyan Island

THREE Iranian gunboats attacked Kuwait's Bubiyan Island yesterday and wounded two Kuwaiti servicemen in an exchange of fire.

A Defence Ministry statement said Kuwaiti troops fired back when the Iranian gunboats attacked at 8.15 am (05.15 GMT) some military positions on Bubiyan, about 20 miles (30 km) northeast of Kuwait City and facing the southern theatre of the Iran-Iraq war.

**Confrontations**

Acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed deeply deplored the Iranian aggression, adding that the Foreign Ministry has taken up measures to handle the attack. He did not elaborate.

**Sheikh Saad returns**

HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah returned home yesterday evening after a private visit to the United Kingdom.

Sheikh Saad was welcomed by the chief of the National Guards, Sheikh Salem Al Ali, acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, sheikhs, ministers and senior officials and a number of prominent citizens.

He said he hoped there would be no further confrontations. "I hope this attack is not repeated, especially now that we are attempting to build good relations with Iran."

Shipping executives, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Iranians approached only to within several hundred yards (metres) of the shore and escaped unscathed after an encounter that lasted only a few minutes.

Kuwait supports Iraq in the 7-1/2-year-old Gulf war and in the final months of last year its oil installations came under attack by six Iranian Silkworm missiles.

Bubiyan, inhabited only by troops, serves as a forward defence position for Kuwait and is linked to the mainland by a bridge.

The marshy island of about 300 sq miles (775 sq km), the largest of nine Kuwaiti islands in the Gulf, is separated by a narrow waterway from Iraq's Faw peninsula which was occupied by Iranian forces in 1986.

**Fired**

The attack on Bubiyan was the first Iranian strike on Kuwait since December when Iranian forces fired a Silkworm missile toward Kuwait's primary oil terminal at Sea Island. The missile struck a decoy barge.

Iran staged several Silkworm missile attacks on Kuwait last year. In October missiles struck

the US-owned tanker Sangari, the US flagged tanker Sea Isle City and the Sea Island.

Shortly after the attack, the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry summoned the Iranian charge d'affaires and told him of Kuwait's strong protest against and denunciation of this provocative act.

After the meeting between the Iranian charge d'affaires and Kuwait's Foreign Undersecretary Suleiman Majed Al Shahrin, an official ministry spokesman said: "This aggression on Kuwait's sovereignty and security will undoubtedly inflame the already tense situation in the area and lead to consequences that would not serve the security and stability of the region."

**Denied**

Tehran denied its gunboats attacked Bubiyan Island.

An Iranian spokesman said Iranian gunboats routinely patrolled the Khawr Abd Allah waterway between Bubiyan Island and the Iranian-occupied Faw peninsula and nothing unusual had happened yesterday.

Western diplomats in Kuwait told the Arab Times the attack on Bubiyan Island was not entirely surprising but did not interpret it as a signal for a larger-scale attack on Kuwait.

"They just hit a wrong sandbank," said a European diplomat noting that Umm Al Qasr, an

Iraqi town near Kuwait border has been under the Iranian fire for several weeks now.

The diplomats were inclined to believe the attack was a deed of more aggressive patrolmen rather than an operation carried out on orders from Tehran. "It is not in the same category of events as a missile attack," said a Western diplomat.

"One has to make a difference between the official decisions taken in Tehran and emotional decision taken by the Revolutionary Guards," said another European envoy.

He added that the attack presents an escalation of the Iranian threats against Kuwait and goes to show that these threats were meant to be more than merely verbal intimidation.

The diplomat said that the incident was predicted by some members of the Kuwaiti government who have recently expressed concern that the Iranian threats against Kuwait were not abating. Unlike in the southern Gulf where the foreign Navies patrol the waters there is no such deterrent in the northern reaches of the Gulf, he said.

**Pressure**

"The Iranians are under pressure to maintain the tension in the region since the seasonal conditions for a major offensive are increasingly becoming unfavourable," he added.

A number of countries deplored the attack on Kuwait.

Condemning the attack the British government said it is a "very worrying development".

A Foreign Office spokesman in London called on the Iranians "to stop such attacks which could only increase the already heightened tensions in the area".

The Foreign Office also stressed that Kuwait "is a non-combatant country and we deplore any assault on its territories".

Saudi Arabia and Bahrain have strongly denounced the aggression and voiced support for Kuwait in defending its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

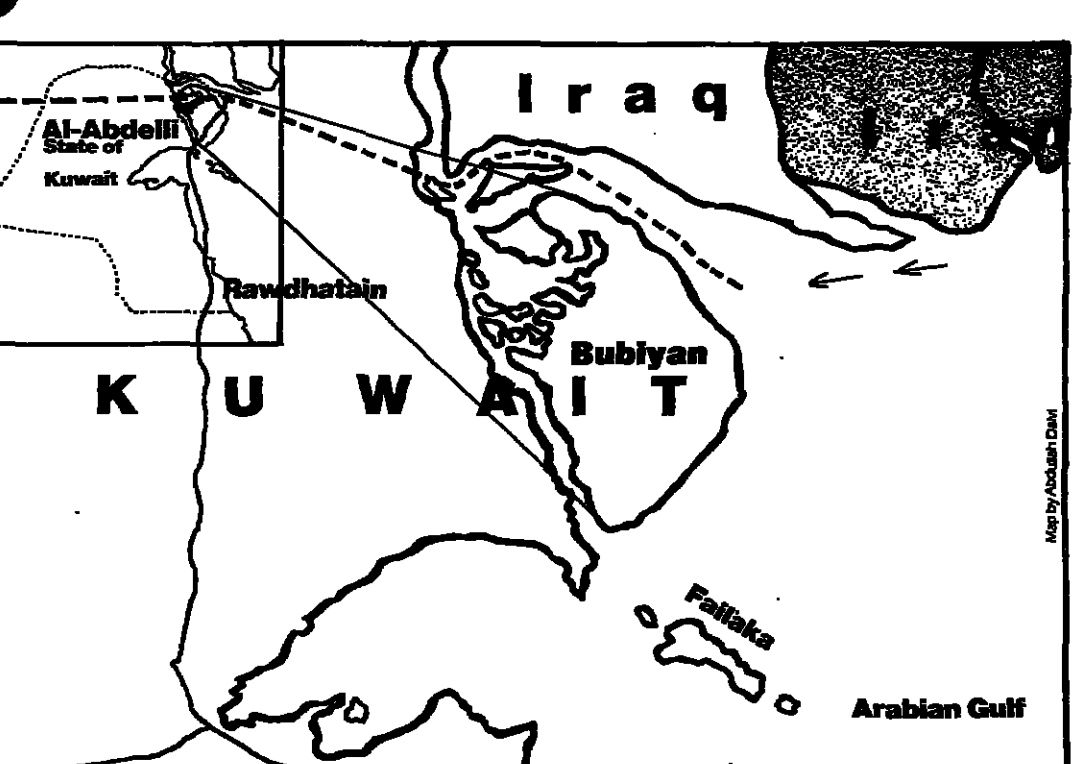
**Condemn**

Jordan said: "We condemn the Iranian aggression against Kuwait." Information Minister Hani Al Khasawneh said: "It reveals the intransigent nature of the present Iranian government and we consider it a provocation against Kuwait. There is no reason for it except a desire for aggression."

"We always support and stand beside Kuwait," Egypt also deplored the incident.

"We vehemently denounce Iran's aggression against Kuwait which is not a party in the (Iran-Iraq) conflict," Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Maguid said.

"The aggression will only lead to a further deterioration of the situation and undermine peace and stability in the Gulf region."



**Cypriot tanker set on fire**

IRAQI MISSILES hit Esfahan

**Qatar acquires Stingers**

NICOSIA, March 30, (AP): Qatar recently displayed an assortment of newly-acquired weapons, including an unspecified number of US-built anti-aircraft Stinger missiles, reports from the Gulf said yesterday.

The reports, which cited highly-placed Gulf officials, said the weapons were featured recently during an inspection tour of military installations in the Qatari capital of Doha by a number of members of the royal family and armed forces commanders.

The same unnamed officials claimed that US Navy sources in the Gulf region know that the Qataris have acquired the sophisticated missiles but disclaim any knowledge as to how they got them, according to the reports.

The reports drew a "no comment" response from government officials in Bahrain.

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ان کے بارے میں سچائی  
○ کویتی جزیرے بوبیان پر  
○ ایرانی جنگی کشتیوں کا حملہ  
○ قبرصی فوج پر عراقی طیاروں کا حملہ  
○ قبرص میں جنوبی افریقہ کے سفارتخانے کے قریب دھماکہ  
○ افغان مجاہدین نے اقتدار میں شرکت کی پیش کش مسترد کر دی  
○ پاکستان میں سیاسی تبدیلیوں کا موسم آنے والا  
○ اشرف شاہ کا سیاسی تجربہ  
○ ظاہر کا مقصد ○ تقریبات  
○ کیل اور فلمی ڈانری

## 4 killed as violence flares on Land Day

NAZARETH, Israel, March 30, (Agencies): At least four Palestinians died and more than 60 were injured today as unprecedented preventive measures failed to curb violence in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The Army, giving figures for the West Bank but not the Gaza Strip or Israel proper, said that by 6 pm (1600 GMT), three Palestinian men and one woman were killed and between 45 to 47 people injured, mostly by gunfire.

Three Israeli soldiers were hurt as well as three Israeli civilians, an Army spokeswoman said. Official figures for the Gaza Strip would be released later, she added.

A three-day ban on media travel to the occupied areas, coupled with the closure of a Palestinian news agency that was a main source of information, left newsmen uncertain about the exact toll.

**Closed**

The Army ordered the Palestine Press Service (PPS) news agency closed for six months while the Supreme Court rejected a petition from the Foreign Press Association (FPA) to open the occupied areas immediately for press coverage.

At mid-morning, the Army closed the offices of the Palestine

Press Service in Arab East Jerusalem under emergency regulations to maintain "security and public order," said editor Elias M. Znanenir.

Ibrahim Kara'een, the owner of the news agency, which has about 40 clients, was summoned to police headquarters where he was given the closure order signed by Maj. Gen. Amram Mitzna, commander of the central district, Znanenir said.

The violence marked "Land Day", an annual day of protest by Israeli Arabs against land confiscation, during which residents of the West Bank and Gaza Strip were widely expected to stage their own protests as part of a three-month-old uprising against Israeli rule.

**Gunfire**

Hospitals in the West Bank towns of Ramallah and Nablus respectively said they had received bodies of a woman and a man shot dead in clashes with troops.

Relief Palestinian sources said they were told a man was also killed near Hebron while an Israeli security source said a first report spoke of a further fatality near Jerusalem.

At least 45 West Bank residents and 15 inhabitants of the Gaza Strip were wounded, mostly by gunfire, but some by clubbings and tear gas, Israeli

sources said. Most of the injuries were in the Hebron and Tulkarm areas of the West Bank.

At least two Israeli soldiers were hurt, including one hit on the head with an axe, the sources added.

The high casualty toll contrasted with events in areas of Israel inhabited by the country's Arab minority of 700,000 where a day of protest passed generally peacefully.

Doctors at Ramallah Hospital said in a telephone interview that troops entered the home of Wajalah Rabia, while she and her family were eating breakfast and fatally shot her in the head.

"The soldiers came in and asked if there were any men in the house," Mrs Rabir's 17-year-old daughter, Zeinab, said in quotes relayed by a visitor to the hospital.

She said she told the troops no men were home, but they entered anyway. A soldier shot one brother who started to run and other family members then lunged toward the troops, who opened fire, she said.

**Clash**

Officials at Nablus' Al Ittihad Hospital said another Palestinian, Khalid Salah, 22, died of a gunshot wound to the back during a clash with troops in the nearby village of Burqa. They said another Arab was wounded in the shoulder.

The Army was investigating the death.

The fatalities brought to 119 the number of Palestinians killed by Israelis since the unrest began, according to UN figures. One Israeli soldier was killed.

Three-fourths of Israel's Arab citizens joined a general strike, organisers said.

The curfew-bound Gaza Strip was "one gigantic ghost town" with almost all its 650,000 residents remaining indoors, a UN relief official said. A few burning tyres and Army patrols were the only signs of life in the streets, he said.

Amnesty International expressed concern yesterday that restricted press access into Israeli-occupied areas during a three-day closing of the territories would hide possible human rights violations.

## UN talks on Gulf war hit a snag

UNITED NATIONS, March 30, (Agencies): UN ceasefire talks on the Gulf war hit a snag as Iran postponed sending an envoy to New York, as promised.

UN officials announced that talks with a high-level Iranian official, scheduled for today and tomorrow, were delayed indefinitely at Iran's request. No reason was given.

Iraq was to send an envoy next Monday and Tuesday for talks with Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar. But the Iranian delay and Iranian charges of chemical warfare by Baghdad were expected to delay, if not scuttle, the upcoming talks.

The UN chief had invited both nations to send envoys for the fourth round of talks since the Security Council adopted a ceasefire resolution more than eight months ago. He has expressed frustration at the delay in implementing the ceasefire.

The Iranian envoy was expected to be Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Larjani. Iraq had named an envoy.

**Conditions**

In Athens Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said today that any initiatives by other countries or international organisations to end the Iran-Iraq war must include Iranian conditions to be acceptable.

"We welcome any measure by any friendly country but our conditions should be included ... (amongst others) the punishment of the aggressor," Velayati, on a three day official visit to Greece, told a news conference.

Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu said yesterday he would use Greece's presidency of the European Economic Community in the second half of this year to try to end the war.

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**WEATHER**

CLOUDY weather with light to moderate southeasterly wind.  
State of sea: slight to moderate  
High water: 10.00 am, 12.00 noon  
Low water: 5.00 am, 5.00 pm  
Sunrise: 5.39 am  
Sunset: 6.06 pm  
Maximum temperature recorded:  
Kuwait: 30°C 86°F  
Ahmad: 27°C 81°F  
Fahaka: 26°C 79°F  
Minimum temperature expected:  
Kuwait: 25°C 77°F  
Ahmad: 23°C 73°F  
Fahaka: 24°C 75°F  
Maximum humidity recorded:  
Kuwait: 61 per cent  
Ahmad: 59 per cent  
Fahaka: 61 per cent

## US peace plan is flawed: Arab League

WASHINGTON, March 30, (Agencies): Secretary of State George Shultz, about to make another trip to push his Middle East peace proposal, was told yesterday by Arab foreign ministers that his plan was basically flawed.

Clovis Maksoud, representative for the Arab League in the US, said after the two-hour meeting with Shultz that the seven foreign ministers told the secretary of state that his plan "tends to negate several things: self-determination for the Palestinian people, a total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied

territories and security for all states in the region."

Shultz is scheduled to arrive in Israel on Sunday night for another attempt to sell his plan for direct Arab-Israeli negotiations, starting with an international conference involving both the United States and the Soviet Union, but without any direct authority over the negotiations.

Maksoud said: "We think that the PLO should have equal footing in representing the Palestinians." The Israeli government has refused to accept any PLO representation.

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## INTERNATIONAL

Afghan  
accord  
is still  
possible:  
America

GENEVA, March 30. (Reuters): US envoy Robert Peck said today he was convinced that an Afghan agreement was still possible, despite Soviet insistence on continuing its military aid to Afghanistan.

"I remain convinced that the Soviets want an agreement," Peck, a deputy assistant secretary of state, told reporters at the start of the fifth week of the latest round of UN talks aimed at a Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan.

But he admitted that the superpowers remain divided by an "apparently intractable problem" — Soviet determination to continue military supplies to Kabul. Washington wants them to stop in tandem with any end in US aid to the Afghan rebels.

Without concessions from one or both superpowers on that issue, the UN accord appeared doomed, diplomats said.

Soviet Ambassador-at-large Nikolai Kozirev said it would be impossible for the Kremlin to end supplies to the rebels, and said it was not even being discussed.

**Meeting**  
"The cutting off of aid is not a topic of discussion. It's impossible," he told reporters before meeting mediator Diego Cordovez, UN Undersecretary-General.

Peck said he was ready to stay as long as it took to find a solution acceptable to all sides. "The art of diplomacy is to try to find solutions to apparently intractable problems. We have an apparently intractable problem and we're trying to find a way to solve it."

Officially the talks are between Afghanistan and Pakistan, host and ally of three million Afghan refugees and the Afghan mujahideen guerrillas.

But increasingly the negotiations have developed into a superpower clash. Neither the Pakistanis nor the Afghans showed up this morning, and the Afghan chief delegate has not appeared at the talks for several days.

**Guarantee**

The UN pact does not guarantee peace but is designed to create conditions for stability by getting the withdrawal of an estimated 115,000 Soviet soldiers and an end to the military supplies — at least the aid to the rebels.

The United States was called on to guarantee the cut-off of supplies, which are relayed through Pakistan.

In Moscow yesterday, Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said US guarantees would not be needed if Pakistan would agree to stop the aid. But Pakistan has firmly backed the US demand for a symmetrical end to Soviet supplies.

"It might be an attempt to split Pakistan off from the United States," Peck commented.

**Concept**

"My impression is that Pakistan and the United States see eye to eye. The concept of symmetry, the reality of a balanced agreement are essential to the United States and Pakistan."

He also dismissed Afghan President Najibullah's proposals yesterday on power-sharing as "much ado about nothing."

Najibullah offered to form a new coalition government giving the rebels several ministries if they ended their nine-year-old war. Gerasimov said the Afghan President offered them the posts of prime minister and vice-president.

The presidency in Afghanistan is all powerful and the rebels refuse to work with Najibullah.

"There is no evidence that Najib (Najibullah) intends to voluntarily give up power," Peck said.

## Restoration of ties

MOSCOW, March 30. (Reuters): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has said again that Moscow is willing to find a way to restore diplomatic relations with Israel, broken off after the six-day Arab-Israeli war in 1967, Pravda said today.

The issue came up during six hours of talks yesterday between Gorbachev and the visiting Italian Communist Party leader Alessandro Natta.

## 42 killed in 3 days

## Punjab violence escalates

CHANDIGARH, March 30. (Agencies): Sikh extremists in Punjab today killed a Sikh politician and another n.s.n. raising to at least 42 the death toll in a three-day surge of violence that included the third ever rocket attack on security forces, police said.

Police said Sikh separatists just before dawn broke into a home in Gillwalli village, outside the holy city of Amritsar, 140 miles (225 km) northwest of the state capital of Chandigarh, and killed Saroop Singh in a hail of automatic weapons fire.

**Involved**  
Singh was a local organizer of the Akali Dal, the moderate Sikh party that ruled Punjab from September 1985 until last May, when Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government took control of the state in a bid to crush Sikh extremists fighting to establish the independent nation of "Khalistan."

In another incident, a man identified as Ajit Singh was hacked to death by extremists in his home near Patti, 25 miles (40

km) south of Amritsar. Police said they believed the Khalistan Commando Force killed Singh for helping security forces and that his son, a member of the faction, was involved in the murder.

The attacks were the latest in a wave of extremist violence that has claimed at least 42 lives since Monday and raised the death toll for the year to at least 658.

The bloodshed appears to indicate a rejection by hard-line extremists of recent overtures by Rajiv aimed at encouraging a political dialogue and the government is soon expected to declare a state-of-emergency in Punjab under constitutional amendments the ruling party pushed through parliament this month.

With a state-of-emergency, New Delhi can extend its control of the state up to May 1991, suspend civil rights, censor the press and assume wide-ranging arrest and detention powers.

Police, after compiling reports from around the state, said today that extremists staged a total of nine raids yesterday that left a

total of 16 people dead and 10 wounded.

They said between two and five gunmen were involved in each incident and most of the victims were Sikhs suspected of cooperating with authorities or opposing the demand for "Khalistan."

The dead included 10 members of three Sikh families, a Sikh village headman, two Sikh men in villages near Amritsar, a Hindu activist of the Communist Party of India, a Hindu shopkeeper, and the son of the head of a Sikh monastery, police said.

**Rockets**  
Also yesterday, undetermined number of separatists fired two Soviet-made anti-tank rockets into a private truck carrying an 11-man patrol of the paramilitary border security force near Ghoga, 105 miles (170 km) west of Chandigarh, at about 9 pm.

The truck exploded in flames and nine patrol members and the civilian driver were wounded, police said. It was only the third rocket attack ever reported

against security forces in Punjab. The incident came 10 days after extremists shot two rockets into a Hindu temple used as a base by security forces. The rockets damaged the building and slightly injured a paramilitary officer.

Militants staged their first reported rocket attack in January, launching two projectiles at a police patrol near Amritsar. There were no casualties.

The use of rockets represents an escalation in the extremists' tactics and has reportedly prompted serious concern within Rajiv's government, which has ordered increased security for government installations in Punjab and New Delhi.

Security forces on Sunday found 14 Soviet-made anti-tank rockets when they made their largest ever seizures of extremist weaponry.

Meanwhile the government of the western state of Maharashtra said it is suing a Hindu militant leader for calling for an economic boycott of the Sikh community in Bombay.

## Velayati accepts W. German request

Iran to work for  
release of hostages

ATHENS, March 30. (Agencies): Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said today he has accepted a West German request for Iran to work for the release of Western hostages held in Lebanon.

Velayati told newsmen in Athens the request was made by West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher during a meeting the two men held yesterday.

He said Iran has accepted "for humanitarian reasons" to work for the release of Western hostages, but did not specify whether this meant only the West German hostages held by pro-Iranian Shiite groups, or hostages from other countries as well.

Genscher and Velayati held a one-hour meeting in Athens yesterday and the West German foreign minister said later the hostages in Lebanon came up for discussion, among other subjects.

**Willing**

On March 24, Iranian Parliament Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said in Tehran that Iran was "willing to help secure the release of foreign hostages" being held in Lebanon, but stopped short of saying it was actually doing so as of now.

He said "countries whose citizens have been taken hostage

in Lebanon have adopted hostile attitudes (toward) the Islamic republic, and therefore how can we help these countries?"

Analysis said Rafsanjani's remarks implied Iran had stopped efforts it was reported to be making earlier to secure the release of the hostages.

Velayati did not say when Iran would begin working for the hostages' release, following the West German request.

**Negotiate**

Meanwhile, France sent a team of officials to Beirut to try to negotiate the release of three French hostages held by pro-Iranian militants, sources close to the negotiations said yesterday.

The sources said that a delegation headed by a Defence Ministry official identified as Alexandre Stephani visited Lebanon two weeks ago, and held talks with close associates of the kidnappers.

"Stephani and his team did not go to West Beirut but conducted contacts from East Beirut through certain security channels with links to the kidnappers after which they left for Paris," one source said.

Two Lebanese mediators who live in Paris and were part of the earlier team returned to East Beirut on Sunday to continue talks, the source said.

House committee votes  
deep cuts in SDI funds

WASHINGTON, March 30. (AP): The House of Representatives Armed Services Committee voted deep cuts yesterday in President Reagan's request for Star Wars anti-missile spending and his plan to put multiple-warhead MX missiles on US railroads.

The panel, working on its version of a bill authorizing the Pentagon budget for the fiscal year that begins Oct 1, slashed to \$3.7 billion Reagan's request for \$4.5 billion in Star Wars funds.

**Choice**  
The panel also voted to approve \$300 million on research into putting the MX aboard trains. \$300 million less than Reagan had sought. At the same time, the panel increased Reagan's request for spending on the single-warhead Midgeman missile from \$200 million to \$300 million.

The SDI decision confirmed the budget choice made last week by the armed services research and development subcommittee, and will result in a deep reduction from original plans. The \$3.7 billion figure would mean that SDI spending next year would remain at about the current level.

Last year, Pentagon budget plans called for seeking \$6.2 billion in Star Wars money for fiscal 1989. That was reduced to the \$4.5 billion level by Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci as part of a package of reductions he ordered in response to a White House-congressional agreement in December that set next year's US defence budget at \$299 billion.

That agreement has calmed the congressional debate about defence spending, but opened new fights about how to best allocate the overall total.

Filipino  
communist  
commander  
captured

MANILA, March 30. (AP): The military today said the country's top communist rebel fighter was captured in a series of raids described by the President as a turning point in the battle against the insurgency.

Maj. Gen. Ramon Montano told reporters that Romulo Kintanar, commander of the communist New People's Army, was among seven rebel leaders captured in yesterday's raids. He said authorities did not immediately realise who Kintanar was because he initially gave a false name.

The government-run Philippine news agency quoted another military official as saying the chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines, Benito Tiamzon, had escaped by the time raiders arrived at his hideout in suburban Quezon city.

## Democratic race is unpredictable

## Dukakis wins Connecticut primary

NEW YORK, March 30. (Reuters): The fight for the Democratic presidential nomination remained unpredictable today as Michael Dukakis reinvigorated his campaign with a needed victory in the Connecticut primary.

The Massachusetts governor trounced black civil rights leader Jesse Jackson by a better than 2-to-1 margin in a contest he had to win big to keep his White House hopes alive.

The victory came just three days after Jackson established himself as a strong challenger for the nomination by beating Dukakis by a similar 2-to-1 margin in the Michigan caucuses.

Jackson told reporters in Washington: "Michael Dukakis certainly is the front-runner. He has the most money, the most endorsements... I am just running the race at my own pace."

Dukakis took nearly 60 per

cent of the vote and 36 convention delegates, with Jackson garnering about 29 per cent of the balloting and the remaining 16 delegates.

Tennessee Senator Albert Gore, as yet without a victory in a northern state, trailed a distant third with about eight per cent. He won no delegates.

Vice-president George Bush won yesterday's Republican presidential primary in Connecticut with 70 per cent of the vote. But the victory in the state where he grew up as the son of a prominent senator really did not matter.

His main opponent, Kansas Senator Robert Dole, dropped out of the race yesterday, conceding the nomination to Bush.

The vice-president's spokesman, Pete Teoley, said it would now take a miracle to deny Bush the nomination.

The last remaining rival to



A Punjab policeman watches over the victims of the Sikh extremist killing of a family near the city of Amritsar. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Murder of ANC official sparks protest

S. African targets  
in France attacked

PARIS, March 30. (Reuters): A bomb exploded near Pretoria's Embassy today in a wave of attacks on South African targets in France after the killing of the Paris representative of the African National Congress (ANC).

The device, hidden in a plastic bag, went off early in the morning less than 100 metres (yards) from the heavily-guarded embassy in Paris' left bank quarter, shattering windows and damaging a car. Police said no one was injured.

In the Mediterranean port of Marseille, attackers in two cars sprayed the South African consulate with buckshot last night, a few hours after young communists sacked the South African tourist office in Paris.

Police investigating yesterday's murder of Dulcie September, Paris representative of the ANC said it bore the hallmark of a professional hired assassin. The ANC, outlawed in South Africa, is pledged to fighting white rule there.

The gunman, apparently working alone, surprised September as she was opening the ANC's fourth-floor offices in the working-class 10th District.

He shot her five times at close range, aiming at the head. The key was in the lock and she was still holding her mail when she died.

Police said the assailant had used a gun fitted with a silencer. No one near the office had reported hearing shots.

Chun's brother confesses  
stealing a fortune

SEOUL, March 30. (AP): Former President Chun Doo-hwan's younger brother confessed to stealing a fortune in cash, land and stocks and will be charged with embezzling at least \$9.3 million, prosecutors announced today.

Senior prosecutor Kang Won-il said Chun Kyung-Hwan broke down early today after 20 hours of interrogation and admitted he embezzled funds during his seven years as head of the semi-official Saemul (new community) Movement.

Kang said Chun, who at first

denied the charges, confessed after being shown evidence and said he used the money for land and stock speculation.

Kang said corruption and embezzlement charges were being prepared and Chun would be charged today or tomorrow. If convicted, Chun could receive punishments ranging from 10 years imprisonment to the death sentence.

Prosecutors said Chun still denied charges that he peddled government influence and diverted funds overseas, according to Kang.

In the heat of the French election campaign September's murder has become a bone of contention, with left-wing politicians demanding to know why such a prominent anti-apartheid campaigner was not under police protection.

"We are worried by revelations... that calls for protection made to the Interior Ministry after several threats against Dulcie September were never followed up," said former socialist Foreign Minister Roland Dumas.

Police said the assailant had used a gun fitted with a silencer. No one near the office had reported hearing shots.

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NEWS IN  
BRIEF

## INF treaty

WASHINGTON, March 30. (Reuters): The US Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted 16-2 today to recommend the full Senate approve the new US-Soviet nuclear missile treaty.

Ratification by the Senate is considered certain, although a condition attached to the treaty by Democrats could weaken support among Republican senators.

## Bill approved

NEW DELHI, March 30. (Reuters): Indian President Ramaswamy Vekatarman approved today a controversial bill allowing the government to suspend basic liberties to quell a bloody separatist campaign in Punjab.

A government statement said Vekatarman gave his assent to the government-sponsored measure, the 59th amendment to the Indian constitution. The bill received final legislative approval last week.

## Last-minute hitch

MENDOZA, Argentina, March 30. (UPI): A last-minute fuel tank problem, one of many unforeseen hitches, today stalled an attempt by two Americans to become the first people to circle the world in a balloon.

Col. Rowland F. Smith Jr., pilot of the venture and chief of staff of the Kansas Air National Guard, said technicians encountered problems in loading 2,000 gallons of butane gas into two cylindrical plastic tanks that will be fixed to the bottom of the gondola.

Colombo  
bans rallies  
against  
elections

COLOMBO, March 30. (Reuters): The Sri Lankan government banned as "undemocratic" today political party rallies against forthcoming provincial council elections.

A statement said the decision was made by the cabinet which had discussed a report that some political parties might hold meetings to ask people not to vote in the elections.

"This is an undemocratic step and may lead to public unrest in those areas," it was decided that no permission for such meetings should be granted by the police, the statement said.

The semi-autonomous provincial councils were a key element in last year's Indo-Sri Lankan agreement to end the island's Tamil separatist revolt. Elections for councils in four of the nine provinces are set for April 28.

Polling in the five other provinces, including the North and East claimed by Tamils as their homeland, have been postponed indefinitely because of violence.

The main opposition Freedom Party led by former Prime Minister Sirima Bandaranaike is boycotting the elections. The party said a parliamentary election should be held first.

Meanwhile, tension rose in the eastern town of Batticaloa today as Indian troops pulled down black flags flown by the Eelam People's Revolutionary Front rebel group to mark the killing of their comrades a year ago, residents said.

The front said in a statement that 65 members of three Tamil rebel groups, including the front, were killed by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam on March 30 last year in a drive by the Tigers to eliminate its rivals.

Aspirin  
reduces heart  
attack deaths

ATLANTA, Georgia, March 30. (Agencies): A two-year international study of more than 17,000 heart patients showed that aspirin and the seldom-used drug streptokinase, taken together after the onset of chest pains, reduce deaths by up to 60 per cent among heart attack victims.

The second international study on infarct survival, involving patients in 400 hospitals in 16 countries, is billed as the largest heart attack treatment study ever. It was presented yesterday at the annual meeting of the American College of Cardiology.

The study showed that a chewed aspirin tablet or administration of the drug streptokinase, or SK, improved the survival rate. The rate improved more, however, when the two were taken together.

Mortality among heart attack victims given the combination was 7.8 per cent after five weeks, compared with 12.8 per cent for patients given a placebo, a harmless, unmedicated substance used as a control in testing the efficacy of another drug.

For the first time in Fahaheel ...  
Today, the opening of  
Rainbow Restaurant

Enjoy delicious Filipino, Chinese and other exotic cuisine to the relaxing sound of falling water inside the restaurant and the strains of enjoyable music. Share in our great pleasure at the opening of the first restaurant of its kind in Fahaheel! Sea Road — beside Olympic. Please note: Opening ceremony at 6.00pm.



# Expats rush for health certificates

By Jadranka Porter

KUWAIT'S Public Health Department was caught by surprise when in early March double the expected number of expatriates turned up daily at the Ports and Borders Health division to undergo a series of tests required by the new residence law, which took effect on March 1.

The crowds throughout March numbered up to 500 daily, and on some days even 800 patients a day with the result that the 60-strong medical staff was vastly overburdened, the service suffered and the complaints began pouring in.

"We were accused of being badly organised but what in fact happened is that many more expatriates than we had reason to expect have been applying for the residence, said Dr Rashid Al Owaish, the acting director of the Public Health Department.

The new residence law was conceived in 1987 and according to statistics from 1986 used by the public health department no more than 275 expatriates applied daily for the residence.

According to Al Owaish the numbers were swelled by those who arrived in Kuwait as visitors and were now seeking to change

their status. In addition there was a large influx of workers from the Far East who have just been engaged on a large construction project in Al Qorain, said Al Owaish. The clinic got even more crowded when patients began returning in hundreds to collect the certificates.

**Fine**  
The expatriates are in a hurry to regulate their stay in Kuwait as they are liable to a KD2 fine per day of delay in regulating their papers.

The rush prompted the department to open the clinic in the afternoons from 4.00 to 7.00 pm in addition to morning hours from 7.30 am to 1.30 pm.

There are signs that the rush is subsiding, said Al Owaish who recommended that the applicants who want to avoid queuing visit the clinic at 6 pm.

The department is also considering the possibility of opening a clinic for the same purpose in Jahra. Currently the Ports and Borders Health division is dealing with those applying for residence in Kuwait city, the Hawalli governorate and Jahra. A total of 8,727 expatriates were examined at the clinic in the period from March 1 to 29.

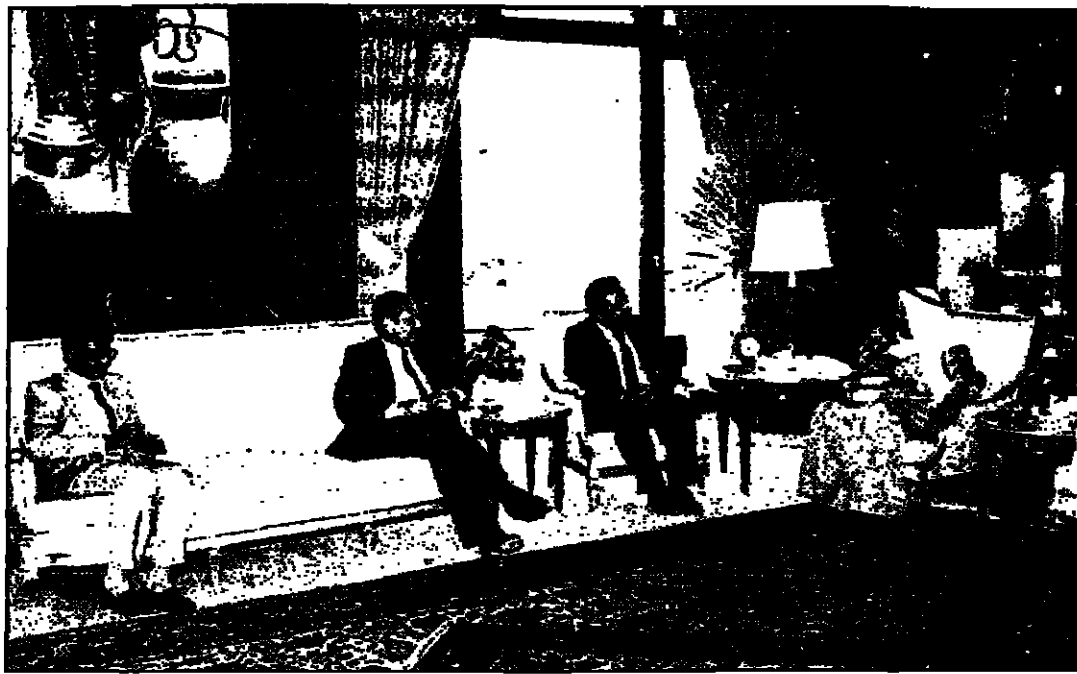
All expatriates seeking residence in Kuwait must get a

clean bill of health from local health authorities which includes a free from AIDS certificate. They also have to be pronounced free from leprosy, tuberculosis, malaria and filariasis. This applies only to first-time applicants.

**Crowded**  
Expatriates who went to the centre in early March complained about the crowded conditions, the unprofessional behaviour of some doctors, that men and women had to use the same waiting rooms and examining rooms and females are physically checked by male doctors.

Al Owaish said that at present separate facilities are available for women. Patients also questioned the procedure which requires them to give blood twice. Al Owaish said this was necessary because of the different nature of the tests which require venous blood for the AIDS test and blood from a finger for the malaria test.

According to the results of the tests 25 cases of malaria and four cases of TB have been discovered. These people will not be granted a certificate. Four expatriates were found to be suffering from filariasis but they will be able to get the certificate.



Kuwait's acting Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed (right), with the assistant secretary-general of the Socialist Party of South Yemen.

## Sheikh Sabah welcomes Libyan decision on border

ACTING Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed yesterday welcomed the decision by Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi to withdraw Libyan troops deployed on the Libyan-Egyptian borders.

Answering a question from reporters, Sheikh Sabah said: "We were very delighted by hearing that decision which we consider as a positive and important step on the way of consolidating Arab solidarity."

**Briefed**  
He added that Arabs are in dire need of such decisions "that eliminate obstacles on the road to Arab solidarity."

Sheikh Sabah expressed hope that fraternal relations and joint respect prevail among all brothers "so as the Arab world restores

its reputation and respect and unifies its position and realises the solidarity which had been prevailing in 1973."

Meanwhile, Sheikh Sabah received the visiting assistant secretary-general of the Socialist Party of Yemen Democratic Republic Salem Saleh Moham-mad.

Later Sheikh Sabah told newsmen that the Yemeni official discussed with him last developments in the region in general and relations between the two Yemen states.

Sheikh Sabah also received the Kuwaiti Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed and the board chairman of the Kuwaiti Finance House, Ahmad Bzai Al Yassin.

## Clinics to extend working hours

A KUWAITI newspaper has reported that the Minister of Health is studying the possibility of increasing the work hours at the local health centres and also expanding the use of the night system. A meeting, chaired by Undersecretary Dr Nael Al Naqib, has set up a committee to look into the matter.

The Health Ministry has also released statistics showing that 30 per cent of the total manpower at the ministry are Kuwaiti nationals. There are 2,190 doctors employed by the ministry of whom 656 are Kuwaitis. Altogether, the ministry employs 31,342 people.

## Service extended

THE Health Minister Dr Abdul Razzak Al Youssef Al Abdul Razzak has issued a decree extending the service of non-Kuwaiti physicians and pharmacists who have reached the mandatory retirement age of sixty. Their contracts will be extended for one more year from July 10 1988 to June 30 1989. A similar decree was passed for 36 other physicians and pharmacists who have reached retirement age, extending their service from March 10 1989 to June 30 1989.

## ROYAL COURT

### Amiri audience

HH the Amir yesterday received acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

### Cable of thanks

HH the Amir received a cable yesterday from the general director of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Dr Abdul Rahman Al Mhailan.

Mhailan expressed his appreciation to the Amir for his patronage of the graduation ceremonies for students of the colleges of PAAET. The Amir sent a reply cable of Mhailan thanking him for his sentiments and reiterating his strong interest in the education of young people in Kuwait.

## KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

### Fabricated difference

KUWAITI daily Al Rai Al Aam yesterday warned against the two superpowers attempts to divert attention from the Palestinian uprising inside the occupied Arab lands by fomenting other crisis in the Arab region.

The daily said "Moscow and Washington are still keeping a state of imbalance in the Arab region to take advantage of the circumstances and to draw up solutions according to agreements concluded between them."

The paper described yesterday's dispute between the two Yemens on the oil area of Shuba as "a fabricated difference," noting that the two superpowers moved to make this Yemeni dispute one of the necessary keys to divert attention from the Palestinian revolt inside occupied Gaza Strip and West Bank.

The paper called on the devoted Arabs and Muslims to solve the dispute between the two Yemens before the situation turns into a disaster.

## Justice ministers to meet in Kuwait

THE Minister of Justice, Dhari Al Othman, has announced that the sixth session of the Council of Arab Justice Ministers will be held in the Kuwait Conference Centre under the chairmanship of HH the Amir, who will deliver the opening speech. No date was set for the meeting.

The minister said that the council is an official body which endeavours to strengthen co-ordination in legal affairs between the various judicial systems throughout the Arab world. The last annual meeting was held in Jordan. Al Othman pointed out that all recommendations adopted during the past five council meetings were aimed at creating a unified judicial and legal system for the Arab world based wholly on Islamic law or sharia.

## Closing ceremony

THE closing ceremony of sports activities for girls schools of Jahra educational area was held under the auspices of the Education Ministry Undersecretary, Abdul Rahman Al Khudari, at the Sulabiya primary girls school.

The ceremony was attended by the Assistant Undersecretary for Planning Affairs, Rashid Al Hamad, senior ministry officials and dignitaries of the governorate.

It began with recital of verses from the Holy Quran and the playing of the National Anthem. This was followed by folklore items and football demonstrations by the girl students. In the end, Al Khudari and Al Hamad distributed cups to winners of sports championships.

## Driving schools

COL. Ahmed Al Rujaib, public relations director at the Ministry of the Interior, has announced the establishment of a special company to run the driving instruction companies in Kuwait. He added that as soon as their premises are finished, these schools will be opened to all members of the public who wish to learn how to drive. The new driving schools will set driving exams for students and those who succeed will be able to get driving licences.

Commenting on recent cases involving complaints against policemen, Col. Rujaib said that only a minority of policemen failed to abide by the ministry's regulations. He pointed out that the ministry offers cultural courses as well as professional courses to all policemen in order to avoid problems, when dealing with expatriates.

## Rqobah meeting

THE Minister of Electricity and Water Dr Homoud Al Rqobah received at his office yesterday Bader Al Homaidhi the director-general of Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development and Mohammed Zain Al Mai the Ambassador of Kuwait to the United Arab Emirates.

A number of issues were discussed during the meetings.

## Labour union supports Palestinian uprising

KUWAIT'S General Labour Union in a statement issued on Tuesday hailed the Palestinian popular uprising in the occupied lands, and reiterated its full support for the Palestinians to restore their legitimate rights.

The statement, which was issued on the occasion of Land Day said that the continuation of the struggle and the sticking to their main demands are the only way to make the Zionists and their imperialist allies give up.

The statement added that no matter how the enemy goes on with their brutal actions and tries all kinds of suppressive methods, such as the burial of live Palestinian youth in the rubble of their homes, yet the Palestinian struggle will not give up to the enemy.

## Credit hours system discussed

THE Dean of student affairs at Kuwait University, Dr Abdullah Sulaiman Al Fuhaid, has said that the guidance committee and the director of the guidance office held several meetings during the second semester to discuss the credit hours system.

He said the committee had invited the representative of the Kuwait National Students Union to take part in the meetings to give the union's point of

"The uprising revealed the reality of the enemy, and damaged their image worldwide," the statement noted, adding that it even managed to reveal the reality of the imperialist states which claim they support human rights.

In conclusion, the statement called on Arabs to support the uprising by all means and in every possible way, and to put all Arab potential and abilities at the disposal of the Palestinian struggle to help escalate the uprising.

"The first thing the Arabs should do," according to the statement, "is to reject US Secretary of State George Shultz's peace plan, and to support the uprising under its legitimate leadership, the PLO."

view, and he had submitted a good study supported with statistics about the students on the probation list admitted in the first semester of 1986-87.

Dr Al Fuhaid said the committee had decided to revise and rectify the credit hours system regulations.

He said that the university administration was keen to discuss all students' problems in order to solve them.

## Family atmosphere in children's homes

KUWAIT has many founding and children's homes, and the children live in a real family atmosphere, according to a local newspaper.

The superintendent of a children's welfare home, Shafiq Al Saleh praised the great attention given to foundlings by the government.

She told the newspaper that foundlings need love and kindness. The children had been deprived of their real mothers, and needed to be compensated for this, she said.

She emphasised that voluntary work was an essential aspect

## Chicken production increases

POULTRY production in Kuwait has jumped from six million to 26 million chickens annually.

Egg farms, however, have dropped from 14 in 1971 to 10 in 1987.

Studies conducted by the Public Authority for Agricultural Resources and Fish Wealth showed that Kuwait's egg production covered 45 per cent of the country's needs, chickens covered 40 per cent, sheep one per cent, beef six per cent, dairy products 25 per cent, and fish between 72 and 76 per cent.

These statistics for 1985 were published by the Information Ministry.

## Tourism promotion

THE tourist office of West Germany's leading tourist destination, Munich, will be holding promotions in 5 cities of the Arabian Gulf from April 2 to 13, a press release said.

Together with representatives of the Munich hotels and the travel agencies they will be beating up publicity for Munich. On the itinerary are the cities of Kuwait, Bahrain, Dubai, Muscat and Abu Dhabi, added the release by the Munich City Tourist Office.

Hotels in Bahrain, Muscat and Abu Dhabi are holding a Bavarian Week, each Bavarian Week will begin with a tourist presentation given by a delegation from the Munich City Tourist Office.

Through seminars, press conferences and "Bavarian evenings" local travel agents and the local press will have the opportunity of acquainting themselves with Bavarian traditions, music and customs.

## Jordan-India direct flights

ROYAL Jordanian Airlines will introduce direct flights from Amman to New Delhi and Calcutta this summer.

This is part of the efforts to reinforce economical cooperation and to promote tourism between India and Jordan.

The airline is to also commence operations to Miami on May 3 and is scheduled to fly to Montreal from early June.

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## Bahrain, Qatar support Saudi Arabia on missiles

RIYADH, March 30, (AP): Bahrain and Qatar added their voices today to Arab declarations of support for Saudi Arabia following veiled Israeli threats to destroy the kingdom's new missiles.

Egypt, Syria, Jordan and other Arab countries have already said they would support the Saudis militarily if necessary, if Israel staged a pre-emptive strike on the Chinese-made CSS-2 missiles.

King Fahd was handed a message from the Amir of Bahrain, Sheikh Issa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, and the Gulf News Agency reported that it contained Bahrain's "firm support for the sister kingdom in defending itself ... and building its power by all modern and advanced weapons."

**Arrogance**  
The message, delivered by the Bahraini Crown Prince Sheikh Hamad Bin Issa Al Khalifa, expressed the Gulf island state's "denunciation of the irresponsible Israeli threats," and charged they were aimed at undermining the kingdom's sovereignty and security, the Bahrain-based GNA said.

"The Israeli reaction was also aimed at weakening the capabilities of the states of the region, a logic that Bahrain

rejects most strongly," it added, referring to Saudi Arabia's major role in Gulf, Arab, and Islamic issues.

In Qatar, at the regular weekly meeting chaired by the Amir Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani, the same issue was discussed and a later statement expressed that state's "strong denunciation of the Israeli threats."

"These threats reflect the extent of the Zionist arrogance and unethical Israeli aggressive policy," said the cabinet statement distributed by the Qatar News Agency.

**Boost**  
Calling for "effective measures to deter the aggressive policy of the Israeli entity," Qatar expressed "all-out support for any attempts by the kingdom to boost its defence capabilities so as to deter threats and to secure peace and stability in the region."

Qatar said this was a translation of the policy agreed upon by Gulf Cooperation Council states.

The missiles have a range of 2,200 miles (3,500 kilometres), enough to reach Israel from Saudi territory. They can be fitted with nuclear warheads but the Saudis have stressed this will not be done.

The kingdom says the missile

acquisition was only part of a defensive programme that in itself was a guarantee of security in the face of regional conflicts.

Israeli officials have said the new missiles are a "grave development."

One of them, Yossi Ben Aharon, a close aide to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, was quoted by Israel Radio as saying Israel had a reputation of not waiting until potential dangers become real ones — apparently a reference to Israel's 1981 air raid against a nuclear reactor under construction in Iraq.

### Kuwait's team for Arab League meeting

A KUWAITI delegation left yesterday for Tunisia to attend meetings of the regular session of the council of the Arab League scheduled to begin today.

The delegation is headed by the director of the Arab nation department, Ambassador Abdul Hamid Al Basjan and comprising of senior officials at the department.

Kuna learnt that the League's meetings will not be held on a ministerial level and will discuss a number of current Arab issues.



● Kuwait's Interior Minister, Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, yesterday honoured a number of traffic officers from Kuwait and other GCC states on the occasion of the Joint GCC Traffic Week. At a ceremony held at the Regency Palace Hotel he presented them with awards and certificates. Picture shows Sheikh Salem congratulating an officer.

### King Fahd receives Austrian chancellor

RIYADH, March 30, (Opecna): King Fahd of Saudi Arabia yesterday received Austrian Chancellor Dr Franz Vranitzky who began a four-day official visit here Monday.

The king and the chancellor agreed that trade between their countries should be consolidated, particularly within the framework of the agreement of economic and technical cooperation signed earlier in the day by Vranitzky and Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal.

The agreement covered cooperation in agriculture, irrigation, industry, exchange of

expertise and encouragement of investments, according to news agency reports.

The Austrian chancellor was also received by the Saudi Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Hisham M. Nazer, who is acting Planning Minister.

Vranitzky also visited the Saudi Ministry of Information and was shown around Saudi television headquarters. The head of the commission for the industrial zones of Jubail and Yanbu, Prince Abdullah Bin Faisal Bin Turki, held a briefing on the kingdom's industrial development programme.

### GCC delegates visit driving test department

GCC delegates to the Gulf Traffic Week paid a visit to the driving test department on the Sixth Ring Road yesterday. Later they toured the kindergarten in Jabriyah to inspect the road safety training programme there.

The delegates from the GCC states also visited the Traffic Department where they were shown around the facilities by Director-General, Brigadier Fuad Mussaed Al Saleh.

Yesterday 18 traffic accidents were recorded in Kuwait, four in the capital, three in Hawalli, six in Ahmadi and five in Jahra.

## Seven-man committee meeting postponed

TUNIS, March 30, (Kuna): The meeting of the Arab seven-man ministerial committee assigned with supporting and following up the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories was postponed by a day, Arab League sources here said today.

The sources told Kuwait News Agency that the ministerial committee has decided to postpone the meeting scheduled for April 9 to April 10 because its delegation to the US stayed in New York to attend the meeting of the UN Security Council, on the uprising, to be held today.

The sources said the Arab ministerial council which will convene here tomorrow will discuss other issues on agenda, but as for the results of contacts of the seven-man committee, the council will deliberate that issue on April 10.

The delegation of the seven-man committee which is currently in New York groups Algerian and Syrian foreign ministers, a Saudi cabinet minister, director of the PLO's political department in addition to the Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi.

The ministerial council is expected to discuss tomorrow the condition of the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, relief aid to Lebanon, Israeli plans to control the water resources in the occupied territories, armament cooperation between Iran and Israel and the Iraq-Iran war.

The agenda also includes the US decision to close down the PLO UN observer mission in New York, the Afro-Arab cooperation, Euro-Arab dialogue and other issues.

## Ministers tour new military hospital



Al Houti (third right) and Al Abdul Razzak (fourth right) going round a part of the hospital.

PUBLIC Works Minister Abdul Rahman Al Houti and Health Minister Dr Abdul Razzak Al Abdul Razzak yesterday inspected the new military hospital.

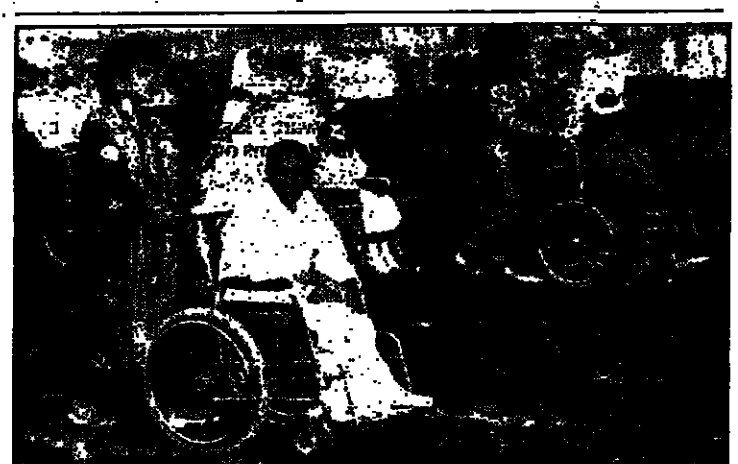
They were accompanied by Defence Ministry Undersecretary Faisal Al Dawoud, assistant undersecretary for engineering construction Sabah Nasser Al Sabah, and a number of senior officials.

They toured the hospital

which consists of 250 beds and covers an area of 59,270 square metres. The hospital cost about KD 17,356,000.

Al Houti said his ministry had taken over the building from the contractor and will hand it over soon to the Defence Ministry.

He said a tender for supplies and another for X-ray equipment for the hospital had been issued.



● Kuwait's Social Affairs and Labour Minister, Sheikh Nasser Al Ahmed, yesterday opened a stadium at the Home for the Disabled at Sulaibikhat. The ceremony was attended by Sudan's Social Welfare and Zakat Minister, Rashida Ibrahim Abdul Karim. Picture shows a parade by disabled boys and girls.

### Seminar on promoting Arabic

ISLAMABAD, March 30, (Kuna): An international seminar on promotion of Arabic language in non-Arab Muslim countries has been recommended to the Pakistani government to make Arabic language compulsory up to intermediate level in all the educational institutions of the country.

Held under the auspices of the Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad, the three-day seminar also recommended that Pakistani students preparing for doctorate in Arabic should be provided Arab guides and two-year stay in an Arab university.

About 35 delegates from different Arab countries and Pakistani educational institutions attended the seminar, which was inaugurated by Dr Ezzuddin Ibrahim, an advisor to the United Arab Emirates President.

All aspects of promotion of Arabic language in Pakistan were considered at length at the seminar, which concluded yesterday.

### Job opportunities for youth

THE Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed said today that a statistical department for labour planning and youth has been set up in the Civil Service Commission to provide better job opportunities to the Kuwaiti youth.

He told Kuna that HH the Amir pays greater importance to youth and was fully aware of their positive role in the reconstruction of the State of Kuwait.

Rashed said that the new department will collect all necessary data about the capabilities of the Kuwaiti youth and use it for the planning and creation of job opportunities for the young Kuwaiti people.

### Alawi due in Belgrade

BELGRADE, March 30, (Kuna): Visiting Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf Bin Alawi Abdullah, who is on a private visit to Yugoslavia since last Friday, is expected to arrive here in Belgrade coming from the Yugoslav city of Sarajevo and hold talks with his Yugoslav counterpart Budimir Lonchar.

Alawi's arrival in Belgrade, expected later in the day, has not been officially announced yet.

Diplomatic sources told Kuna that Alawi Budimir talks will tackle bilateral relations, issues of common interest and developments in the Gulf region and in the Middle East.

### Inspection tour

THE Minister of the Interior Sheikh Salem Al Sabah yesterday made an inspection visit to the general administration of the Police Academy during which he met with the academy's senior officials and listened to their remarks.

Sheikh Salem urged continuous development of the academy's curriculae and visited the library and one of the academy's classes.

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## Table Talk

BY DINAH

EATING in a first class restaurant should be like a visit to a good hairdresser — one's morale should be boosted by being pampered, spoiled and made to feel very special. Of course the waiter's role in all of this is crucial. A first-class waiter is a multi-talented person. He has the charm of a courtier, the discretion of a diplomat and the stamina of a sprinter. He needs an artist's hands to decorate your plate with an attractive collage of food and a linguist's tongue to interpret the menu into different languages. He has something of a dancer's grace and a

# A mood of gentle elegance

gourmet's knowledge. He is the conductor who orchestrates the meal with perfect timing. The impossible is expected of him, for he should be invisible but always there when the guest needs him. No wonder the best waiters are born not trained!

The standard of service at the Sheraton Hotel is generally high, so it was no surprise that their premier restaurant, the Riccardo, employs some of the best waiters in Kuwait. From their warm welcome to pleasant farewells, the staff made our meal memorable.

With its costly marble pillars, raw silk, ruffled drapes and brass statuettes, the Riccardo has an air of discreet opulence. Heavy wooden dressers display a collection of antique pottery, while prints and oils hung on the brocade-covered walls are reflected in the brass-framed mirrors. The candlelit room has a mood of gentle elegance, echoed in the soothing strains of Italian and English ballads from the singer and guitarist. Even the air-conditioning is adjusted to just the right level.

It's worth lingering over the menu with its fascinating history of Italian cuisine and the origins of various dishes. Three different soups and four hors d'oeuvres are offered. There is a choice of eight home-made pasta dishes at under KD3 each, a selection of Italian fish dishes including perch, mussels and sole and a wide variety of veal preparations from KD4 to KD5. Chicken, lamb and beef feature on the menu as well as international specialties like lobster and smoked salmon.

Attractively arranged on a silver tray, the antipasto comprised a tempting selection of ten delicious cold hors d'oeuvres including slices of avocado marinated in garlic, artichoke hearts, marinated mussels, prawns, lobster, smoked octopus, mackerel, cod and beef, cheese and a julienne of vegetables. The warm hors d'oeuvres (Ghiottonerie Calde) was less to my taste but is the perfect starter for those with a hearty appetite. It included chicken in breadcrumbs, fish in batter, aubergine in batter,

leeks wrapped in beef bacon, tasty mussels with a macedoine of green peppers and delicious minced liver with chopped onions and tomatoes.

For the main course we chose Lobster Thermidor — two large halves of fresh lobster dressed in a very cheesy sauce garnished with earthy-tasting field mushrooms. Moist and sweet, the lobster was served with noodles or rice and turnips, leeks, red cabbage and string beans.

For dessert one could either make a selection from the trolley which included home-made apple cake, cheese cake and fruit salad, or order meringues, ice-cream and other delicacies from the menu. I chose Terra Misa — a fairy-light vanilla-flavoured cream made from cheese, served on a bed of cake soaked in syrup and topped with powdered chocolate. Heavenly! The home-made ice-cream was excellent. Four varieties — vanilla, strawberry, pistachio and chocolate, each with its own distinctive fresh flavour and decorated with

orange-chocolate matchsticks. As a finale we ordered cups of cappuccino which was served with a selection of petits fours, exquisite marsh-mallow tarts and biscuits. Each lady guest is presented with a red rose at the end of the meal and, just so the gentlemen don't feel neglected, everyone is given an Italian chocolate to take home.

The total bill came to KD31 including fruit juice and coffee, which considering the quality of the food and service and the price of lobster, was good value for money. Two could eat at the Riccardo for a third of that price if they chose a pasta dish, salad and dessert. If you eat there, you are advised to make a reservation.

**RESTAURANT:** Riccardo  
**TYPE:** Italian/Sheraton  
**MEAL:** Three course a la carte  
**PRICE:** KD31 (for two)  
**Star rating:** (out of five):  
**FOOD:** \*\*\*\*\*

**SERVICE:** \*\*\*\*\*  
**ATMOSPHERE:** \*\*\*\*\*  
**VALUE FOR MONEY:** \*\*\*\*\*

## WHAT'S ON

### MUSIC

#### Sargam Kay Sitaray

A musical nite, will be held on April 7 at the Cinema Gharana. Tel: 5723573; 5759283.

#### Upasana

Upasana presents a musical nite — Ghanamanjari, featuring South Indian film songs, on April 7, 7.30 pm.

Geethanjali — a selection of Hindi, Tamil, Malayalam songs — will be presented by the same group, 6.30 pm, on April 8.

Both programmes will be held at the Indian Arts Circle auditorium, Funtatees. For reservations phone 5643643; 3987409.

### SOCIAL

#### Kuwait National History Group

A meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 5, 7.30 pm in the Gulf English School, Salwa. An illustrated talk on "Little Beasts of Kuwait" will be given by Dr David Clayton. For details contact 3912384; 4874548.

#### German-Speaking Cultural Association

Due to unforeseen circumstances the regular coffee morning at the Hilton Hotel scheduled for April 3 has been postponed to April 13, 10 am, in the Old Fakhra Room. All German-speaking women are welcome.

#### Kuwait Welsh Society

The Society will hold "Nosen Lawen" (social evening), 8 pm, April 7. For details phone 3912384; 4874548.

### Bangladesh Association

The association will hold a cultural programme, 6.30 pm, on March 31, Thursday, to mark the Independence and National Day of Bangladesh. All Bangladeshis are welcome. For details contact Hatem Ali Shah — 4710128; Muzammel — 2551312.

#### Story Time

March 31, 10.30 am, is story time for children at the British Council Library. Children of all nationalities, three to six years old, are welcome.

#### Book Show

An exhibition of English Language Teaching Books will be held from April 2 to 4 at the British Council, Mansouriya. It will be open from 9 am to 12.30 pm and 5 to 8 pm. The library will be closed on Saturday evening, April 2, for the opening of the show.

#### Canadian Women's League

There will be a meeting of the Canadian Women's League on Saturday, April 2, from 4 to 6 pm. For details phone 3718678; or 3727689 ext. 237.

#### Pakistan Youth Association

The association will hold a programme to celebrate Isra Wal Meraj and Pakistan Day, on Friday, April 1, 7 pm, at the Kuwait Plaza Hotel. Entry by invitation only.

### ARTS

#### Dahiyat Abdullah

Kuwait's formative artists are showing their paintings at the 20th annual exhibition at the Dahiyat Abdullah Al Salem Gallery, near Fatima Mosque. The exhibition is open daily, except Friday, from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm, until April 7.

#### Free Atelier

An exhibition of paintings by

Samiya Ahmad Sayyed Omar is open daily, except Friday, from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm at the Free Atelier Gallery, Arabian Gulf St., near Amiri Hospital. It runs until April 7.

#### Ghadir Gallery

Sudanese artist Hasan Hakeem will exhibit his work at the gallery in Salmiya Complex from April 2. It will be open daily from 9 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8.30 pm.

#### Sultan Gallery

An exhibition of oil paintings by Pakistani artist Yasmeen Bhaimia is open daily, except Friday, from 9 am to 1 pm and 5 to 8 pm at the gallery, Al Sora St., from March 28. The exhibition continues until mid-April.

### SPORTS

#### Bowling Tournament

The Philippine Bowlers Association in Kuwait (PBAK) will hold their handicap bowling tournament from 9 am on April 8 at Club 300. The tournament is open to all men and women. Deadline for submitting entries is April 6. Fee: KD. 4.500.

#### Knockout '88

Inter-school Knockout, '88 Grand Finale takes place on Wednesday on April 13. The event features student and teacher teams from Kuwait's schools in a series of exciting games. Barbecue dinner and beverages will be served by the poolside. Valuable prizes. For details contact the hotel.

#### Salcette United

Salcette United will hold a Whist Drive-cum-Tea Party for its members and guests on Friday, April 8, 3.30 pm at Ramada Al Salam Hotel. For

details contact D'Costa — 2439000 ext. 2537 and Agnello — 2460983.

### K.O.S.A.

Kuwait Offshore Sailing Committee (K.O.S.A.) will hold an extraordinary general meeting on April 19, 1600 hours, at Fakhra Sea Club. All members are invited to attend.

### E.M.A.C. Tournament

A tennis tournament for under-16s will be held from April 13 to 16 at the SAS Hotel. Participating teams are from Abu Dhabi, Oman, Damascus, American School of Kuwait, Universal American School, Kuwait English School and New English School. The tournament has been organised by E.M.A.C. (Eastern Mediterranean Activities Conference).

### THEATRE

#### Kuwait Players

Tonight at 8 pm is the last performance of Kuwait Players "Wait Until Dark", a suspense drama by Frederick Knott, directed by Mike Consden, starring Jennifer Galland and Derrick Hicks. For reservations phone 5657749; 5330934.

#### Stepping Out

Kuwait Players present the comedy "Stepping Out", directed by Ken Winston with choreography by Donna Smith, who also plays the lead, from April 10 to 14 at the Crystal Ballroom, Regency Palace Hotel. First night is gala night — dress black tie or lounge suit. Tickets — KD 5 each (including buffet on gala night and snacks on other nights). For reservations ring 5331269; 5745838; 5383149.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

### KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran  
9.15 Cartoons  
10.00 Ft Rihab Tarbiya:  
11.00 Islam Wal Insaan:  
12.00 Qatl Bil Murasalah:  
Arabic play.  
1.00 News Summary  
1.20 World News via Satellite  
2.00 Liqa Al Khamis:  
3.30 Hikayat Alamiya:  
4.00 News Summary  
4.15 The Saint:  
5.25 Maktabat Ala Wa Hina:  
6.00 Alwan:  
7.00 News Summary  
7.05 Show Jumping:  
7.30 Al Bahath An Al Saadah:  
8.30 With Islam:  
9.00 News in Arabic  
9.50 From People's Art:  
10.30 Ayyam Al Loolu:  
Arabic feature film.  
12.00 Late Night Variety Show:  
1.30 News Summary  
1.35 World News via Satellite  
2.15 Holy Quran/Close down

1.00 News Summary  
1.20 World News via Satellite  
2.00 INTERVAL  
2.30 Preview of next week's programme on KTV.  
3.15 Hadith Deeni:  
4.00 Antar Wa Ablah:  
Arabic play.  
6.35 Kuwait in a Week  
7.00 News Summary  
7.15 Kul Al Funoon:  
8.00 Weekly seminar:  
9.00 News in Arabic  
10.00 Wrestling  
10.45 Ajeebah: Arabic drama  
12.00 News Summary  
12.05 World News via Satellite  
12.30 Holy Quran/Close down

"That's Cheating." Everyone in the Foley household is out to win a little. But will they?  
8.00 News in English  
8.40 Chipperfield's Circus  
9.10 Spenser for Hire: "Song of Orpheus."  
10.00 The Bill Cosby Show  
10.30 Late Night Movie: "Sam Whiskey." Starring: Burt Reynolds, Clint Walker, Angie Dickinson.  
12.00 News Summary/Magazine "D'Actualite!" Closedown

**FRIDAY**  
2.30 Holy Quran  
2.40 Sports Studio: highlights of local and world sports  
6.10 Cartoons  
7.30 Out of this World  
8.00 News in English  
8.40 Breaking Away  
9.05 The Beauty and the Beast  
10.00 Guinness Book of World Records  
10.30 Wise Guy: featuring Ken Wahl.  
11.30 News Summary/Magazine "D'Actualite!" Closedown

### KTV 2

2.30 Holy Quran  
2.40 Cartoons  
3.10 Sports Studio:  
4.35 Football: Kazema vs Al Sharqat Al Imarah (UAE)  
6.10 Centurions: "The Warrior." Cartoons.  
6.30 The Mickey Mouse Club  
7.00 Rags to Riches:

### FRIDAY

9.00 Holy Quran  
9.30 Hikayat Min Al Alam:  
10.00 News Summary  
10.05 World News via Satellite  
10.20 Children's Magazine:  
11.00 Prophet's Saying:  
11.15 Friday Prayer  
12.15 Min Wahi Al Ayaat Al Bayanat:

### PRAYERS

#### THURSDAY

Fajr 4.18 am  
Zuhr 11.52  
Asr 3.23 pm  
Maghreb 6.07  
Isha 7.24

#### FRIDAY

Fajr 4.16 am  
Friday Prayer 11.52  
Asr 3.23 pm  
Maghreb 6.07  
Isha 7.25

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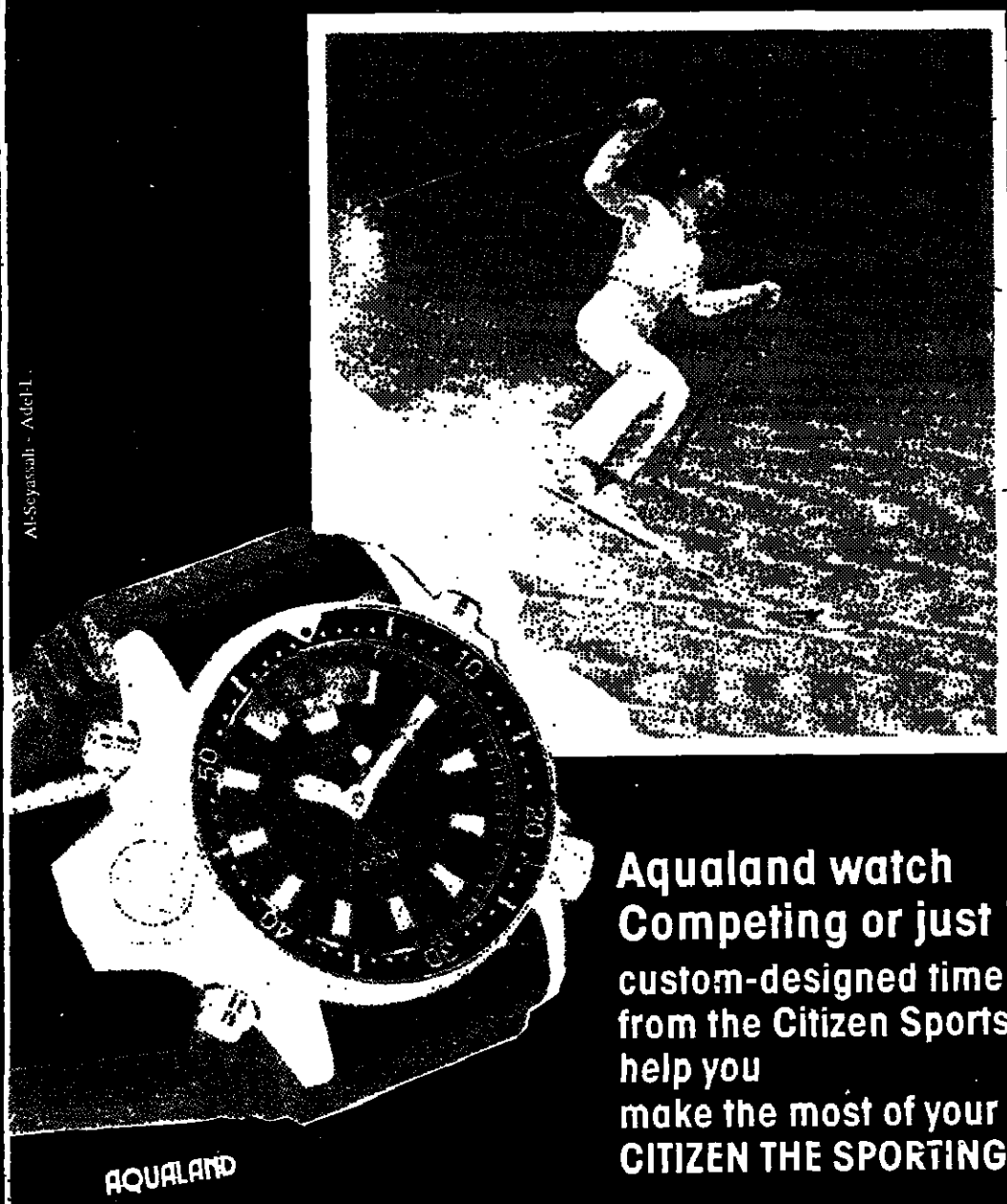
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Al Salmiya  
Hot Shots  
Starring: Jim Younger

Al Haura  
The Living Daylights  
Starring: Timothy Dalton

Drive-In  
Zaman Hatem Zahran  
(Arabic)  
Starring: Noor Al Shariff,  
Bosi, Salah Al Saadani

Al Firdous  
Silsila (Hindi)  
Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Rekha

Fahad Open-Air  
Sangam (Hindi)  
Starring: Raj Kapoor,  
Vyjayantimala

Al Fahad  
Chandana Daku (Bengali)

Al Jahra  
Al Mal'oub (Arabic)

Granada  
Jumpin' Jack Flash

Salaikhat  
Villambaram (Malayalam)

Al Jleeb  
Dilruba Tangwali

Ahmedi Drive-In  
Shabab Fi Jaheem (Arabic)

### FRIDAY

Al Jahra  
Kill Zone

Granada  
Kudrat Ka Kanoon (Hindi)

Salaikhat  
Real Genius

Al Jleeb  
Sindoor (Hindi)



## ARAB TIMES

## Thought for today

SELF conquest is the greatest of victories — Plato, Greek philosopher (about 427 BC—347 BC.)

## OPINION

## Government should start buying shares

KUWAIT'S economy is now built around 30 to 40 companies and banks operating in various economic sectors.

The business activities of these companies are also coupled to an active trade in Kuwait, especially the transit trade. These companies are very active in the international arena through very profitable deals.

The question is, if the internal situation of these companies is not good then they may be forced to lose the facility of overseas activity.

At present, the real estate market is witnessing an encouraging movement, while, on the other hand, the prices of shares at the stock market are going down.

This is not because the companies trading shares in the market are in a bad position. The government has already guaranteed the rights of shareholders, has guaranteed the bank deposits and has guaranteed almost everything.

So why is there a retreat in share prices?

The question is one of confidence and technique in trading.

In the Kuwait Stock Market there is a limit to the rise in the prices of shares — this method is not accepted nor adopted anywhere in the world.

In the Kuwait Stock Market the share prices cannot increase beyond the limits set by the management.

Taking into consideration the fact that the government is the guarantor for the banks and some other companies, this means that any retreat in share prices is at the cost of the government. The government should therefore not allow the prices of shares to drop, especially when there is no reason or cause for it.

Moreover, the creation of trust at the market also becomes necessary for the government.

The government is causing a big stir at the London Stock Market by purchasing a lot of British Petroleum shares and causing the share prices to rise. It is also causing prices to rise in the Spanish market by buying shares.

The government, however, is forgetting the Kuwait Stock Market.

Now, if the government intervenes in the market by buying the shares it sold before, it could buy the shares at a lower price. If the government adopts the policy of buying shares although in small amounts, from the stock market in Kuwait, it would certainly bring life back to trading.

Moreover, the government should ask the companies, banks and establishments to buy 10 per cent of their shares from the stock market in line with the decision to this effect taken months ago. Such a measure would strengthen confidence in the market.

The Kuwait economy is centred around 30 or 40 companies, and the savings and investments of Kuwaitis are in these companies.

If the government wants to get good results, then it should adopt this policy.

By adopting this policy the government would help the companies to overcome their troubles instead of being forced to guarantee the companies.

The speculation of the government in the stock market will certainly strengthen it, but this strength cannot grow if the internal situations collapse as a result of the fact that the government pays more attention to overseas markets.

A wise policy would be based on the fact that any strength abroad must be accompanied by strength at home. Otherwise, weakness at home will certainly start influencing the overseas activities.

This rule is applicable to economic and political thinkers.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

## Le Pen campaigns for 'French France'

By Elaine Ganley

AMIENS, France, (AP): Extreme right leader Jean-Marie Le Pen, whipping up a crowd of 1,500 supporters, painted a picture of a decadent, declining and endangered France, a tower of babel overrun by immigrants.

For a year now, the champion of a "French France," the first man to announce his candidacy in the April 24 presidential elections, has been pounding out the message.

With less than a month to go, the message is being heard — by other candidates scrambling for Le Pen's voters — and his prediction that immigration will be a key issue of the election appears to be coming true.

"Today we are in great danger," Le Pen told his audience in this communist-controlled town in the northern Picardy region. France is suffering "a demographic loss, a moral loss, a religious loss ... and when you lose the instinct for life, you condemn yourself to death."

Like a fire and brimstone preacher, the ruddy, silver-haired Breton uses his considerable oratorical skills to shock, taunt, cajole his listeners. Then he homes in on his favourite fears — immigration, insecurity, drugs, AIDS — and extolls his favourite virtues — God, family and France.

"The renaissance of France must come through drastic measures," says Le Pen, 59, the

son of a fisherman.

If elected president, Le Pen says, he will amend the constitution to allow for referendums on social issues, then hold a vote to send large portions of non-European immigrants home, reinstate the death penalty for drug traffickers and terrorists and quarantine victims of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

Critics charge that the aggressive Le Pen, a one-time paratrooper in Indochina and Algeria, is a fascist, a racist and an anti-Semite — which he denied — and that his National Front encourages xenophobia.

Some analysts say Le Pen hurt himself last September when he referred to the Nazi gas chambers as a "detail" in the history of World War II. Later that month, protests forced Le Pen to cancel a visit to Britain to address a meeting during the governing Conservative Party conference.

## Favourite

Now running fourth in opinion polls, which give him about 10 per cent of the vote, Le Pen has become an important electoral factor.

Socialist President Francois Mitterrand remains the favourite, consistently garnering about 38 per cent in the polls for the April 24 first round, which would pit him against the top conservative candidate in the May runoff.

But for the divided right, Le Pen can be a spoiler.



## WHY?

## Afghan refugees want to return once Soviets leave

By Robert Mahoney

PESHAWAR, Pakistan, (Reuters): "If the Russians leave I'll go home."

So said Imam Jan, one of three million Afghan refugees in Pakistan eagerly following UN talks on ending the nine-year-old war that drove him out of Afghanistan.

"Most of us feel that way," he said and a line of grey beards behind him nodded in agreement.

The men, gathered in one of the scores of mud-built camps along the Afghan border, had just stood in line for their daily ration of wheat from international relief agencies.

"I am grateful for this but I once grew my own wheat ... I will again, God willing, after the Russians go," said Malung Abdullah Khan who fled five years ago from Nangarhar province just across the border.

Refugees in several other camps expressed the same determination to leave.

Their main concern was for safety, not the type of government which would oversee their return.

Some favour an Islamic government, others want the return of former King Zahir Shah toppled

after a 40-year reign in 1973.

All support the Muslim guerrillas fighting the Soviet-backed Kabul government and reject offers by its President Najibullah to share power.

Afghans in Pakistan make up the biggest refugee population in the world.

Islamabad, which is negotiating a peace accord with Kabul in Geneva, says it fears they will not go home unless a neutral government replaces Najibullah while Moscow pulls out its 115,000 soldiers.

Aid workers, however, believe many will go back if they can be certain Russians are no longer there to carpet-bomb and shell them.

"Even if the Kabul government hangs on after a Soviet withdrawal and the mujahideen (guerrillas) keep fighting, Afghan farmers are going to go back," said one senior international relief official who asked not to be named.

"Afghan history is a long line of Afghans fighting Afghans ... it was the Russians who forced them to flee," he said.

"I don't doubt that more than 90 per cent want to go home if the bombing and shelling stop."

"Most are farmers and in a traditionalist society like Afgh-

anistan attachment to ancestral soil is very strong."

Many of Pakistan's thousands of Afghan town dwellers and traders also want to go back even though they have prospered outside the camps doing everything from driving taxis to selling costly carpets.

"We want to go home," said Abdul Matin whose family runs jewellery and carpet shops in Peshawar and Islamabad.

"Some Pakistani traders are jealous of our success but that is not a problem ... we can make money here in Pakistan but we are Afghans and we want to live in Afghanistan."

The farmers have no illusions about what they face upon return.

"The Russians bombed our houses and fields," Abdullah said. "We have to rebuild everything ... I have 25 acres which have gone to waste. It will take at least four years to put it back in shape."

The Soviet forces consistently bombed and shelled farms and villages to push civilians off the land and so rob the guerrillas of food and shelter. They destroyed irrigation systems, machine-gunned sheep and cattle, cut down fruit trees and mined roads.

"The rehabilitation of Afgh-

anistan is going to have to be massive. It's going to take years," said an agricultural expert hired by a Western aid agency to gauge the war damage.

## Split

Western aid workers hope the Afghans, who are split into small tribal groups, can avoid a mass exodus from Pakistan.

"The Afghans are bright, they know what is going on in Afghanistan and they are not going to rush back into famine," a UN worker said.

Each tribal leader is likely to send in scouts after the Russians leave, the aid workers said. If they report the land is clear then the whole tribe could move back, irrespective of what government it is in Kabul.

About 2.2 million Afghans have also fled to Iran and relief officials say the prospect of providing food, fuel and other supplies for the refugees once back inside Afghanistan is daunting.

"We will need to provide transport to get them back, build centres to receive them and ... we need to have a coordinator," said a UN worker. "And with the numbers of mines and butterfly bombs the Russians have left, can you imagine the casualties we are going to get? We are going to

## Indian middle class pessimistic

By Christian Fuerst

NEW DELHI, (Dpa): India's middle class, especially the huge sub-continent's intellectuals, are filled with gloom, fearful that their modest riches, laboriously acquired in the past few years, will be whittled away by drastic government-ordered price rises. Indians are not just frustrated by the accelerating rise in the cost of living. Recent opinion polls show that a rising number of people feel deeply disappointed by the political leadership too.

The exuberant enthusiasm with which the vast majority greeted Rajiv Gandhi when he took over three years ago as the nation's new prime minister has long given way to a profound disillusionment.

The Times of India newspaper summed up the prevailing feeling recently when it said Indians were "a nation on edge".

Violence "Rising prices, unemployment, growing violence, the breakdown of public services, petty corruption and the venality of those armed with authority" had led to "a burgeoning sense of insecurity" which made people

"perfectly indifferent to any rhetoric of progress or modernity", the paper added.

This negative outlook is clearly reflected in the country's English-language press still regarded as the mouthpiece of the elite.

Leading journalists and readers alike have been angered by political scandals that have tarnished the image of Rajiv's style of government.

When Rajiv took over as leader he had nearly all of the press behind him. Today the number of pro-government publications has shrunk to only a few.

The Indian Express paper, once the premier's favoured daily, has launched a below-the-belt campaign against Rajiv in the past year that won it a 20-per cent increase in its circulation.

Another paper, India Today, once published by Rajiv's close friend Suman Dubey, has dubbed the 43-year-old premier a spoilt young urban professional "yuppie" and a "snob".

The political weekly Sunday has dubbed the regime "the government that does not work".

need surgical units there for years to come.

Fortunately for the aid organisations, the ruggedness of Afghanistan is mirrored in its people.

In interviews with refugee farmers not one asked for international handouts. They said they would rebuild their farms on their own if needs be.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

1496 — Pope Alexander VI forms Holy League with Holy Roman Empire, Spain, Venice and Milan, ostensibly to fight Turks but aimed at expelling Charles VIII of France from Italy.

1683 — Poland forms alliance with Holy Roman Empire against Turks.

1854 — US Commodore Perry makes first treaty with Japan, opening two Japanese ports to trade with outside world.

1877 — Bartle Frere is named British high commissioner of South Africa with instructions to work toward federation.

1889 — Eiffel Tower is opened in Paris.

1905 — German Kaiser William II's visit to Tangier sets off first Moroccan crisis.

1913 — Turkey accepts recommendations of great powers for peace with Bulgaria.

1936 — Britain and France pledge to support Poland if it is invaded.

1941 — Germans launch counter-offensive in North Africa in World War II.

1942 — Japan's successes in Burma and Andaman Islands threaten India's west coast during World War II.

1948 — US Congress passes Marshall Aid Pact for European recovery.

1966 — Prime Minister Hendrik Verwoerd's Nationalist Party wins greatest election victory in South Africa's history.

1987 — About 800 leftist guerrillas kill 43 soldiers and US military adviser in attack on major Army base in El Salvador.

## Favouritism by KT Club

SIR: I appreciate Jack Lubat's comment in last week's Letters to the Editor column. Nevertheless, I want everyone to know what actually happened.

I am one of the eight marshals who walked out of the KT Club's prize-giving ceremony held to honour the winners and express appreciation for the work done by the marshals, who helped them to organise and manage the recently held International Car Rally in Kuwait.

Since we walked out, we'd like to tell our side of the story. To put things in the right perspective, we would like to clarify that we did not expect anything from the KT Club. But we certainly expected them to be fair.

Three trophies were set aside for the best, the hardest-working and the longest-serving marshals. Two of these trophies were given to the most undeserving marshals who took part in a rally for the first time. The rally lasted only for two days but preparations started months ahead. We do not understand why the two pretty ladies, who did the least, received two of the best prizes. No one envies the girls but we object to the favouritism of the KT organisers.

The KT Club certainly owes an explanation to the eight marshals.

Mohammad Aslam, Safat.

Unfair means

SIR: Thanks for the report on the United Indian School. We appreciate the innocent sponsor's efforts to rebuild the school.

We are parents living in Abbasia and are aware of everything that goes on at the school. We know the chairman and the president from the first day they had come to Abbasia in search of a building. Because of them the sponsor believes all Indians are gossip mongers. We cannot forgive them.

We would like to ask them if they can publicly deny selling visas? Can they deny that a teacher now working at the school had to pay to renew her residence transferred to the

school? Can they deny that a lady who worked at the school from the beginning, sometimes even without pay, left the school tearfully because they did not appreciate her efforts?

A poor Indian boy working with them from the time the school had started could not get the school's sponsorship because he could not pay for it. But visas were given to those who could pay. Can they deny it?

Is it not true that a school account was opened only after the new sponsor asked them to open one? Previously money was not being deposited in a school account.

One year ago a poor man paid KD500 to get a visa for his daughter. When the visa did not materialise the man wanted the money back. A cheque for KD500 was issued but it bounced.

What is the academic qualification of the president?

Many people have been hurt. They should pray to God to forgive them for their sins, otherwise they may become penniless, though they make millions unfairly. Many Indians made quick money but are now without any and have returned to work in Kuwait.

A parent, (Name and address supplied).

From bad to worse

SIR: What has been happening at the United Indian School is rotten business. The parents of 600 children have been relieved to read the reported assurance of the sponsor to revamp his institution.

But some action taken by the concerned authorities since then proves that the school is going from bad to worse.

The sponsor concedes that three teachers were recruited from India. One of them can not communicate in English. Several complaints were forwarded to the principal, who reported that this particular teacher and another local appointee were unfit as teachers.

The local teacher has been sacked but the management retained the services of the other person, who was given the job of a clerk at the school.

The Ministry of Education only approves visas for teachers. Why was this done?

Recently a local Indian school advertised for teachers and 150 graduates and post-graduates applied for the job. When experienced teachers are available locally why were inefficient teachers recruited from India?

The school has recently appointed a new principal, whose services were terminated by another well-established Indian school in Kuwait. Irrespective of the reason for such termination, the appointment of such a controversial person is not a healthy practice in a school though it may happen in business.

The issue of dud cheques and the duplicity of school accounts in paying salaries have not been denied. Such activities are illegal and show contempt for the law.

One board member is a high school drop-out and a few others have no stable jobs. When they say something about championing the cause of education, these appear to be ludicrous.

If the school's sponsor is sincere in keeping his promise then he should detach himself from these misfits, who are neither educationists, academics, intellectuals, philanthropists nor men with an acceptable sense of social behaviour.

Unni Kunju, Safat.

Sheer lies

SIR: A letter published in your paper under the heading Monkey Business (24.03.1988) written by H.C. Das is fabricated and untrue. We do not have any teacher whose brother was a co-founder or ex-board member of the United Indian School.

Hence Das' statement that one Jose George broke away from UIS board and apparently established the Kuwait Indian School to obtain a visa for his sister is a lie and shows Das' ignorance about KIS affairs. Our enquiries with UIS revealed that they never had any one called Jose George as co-founder or board member.

We request Das to come forward and prove his statement. If proved he will be rewarded

one hundred dinars.

KIS headmistress and teachers are well qualified and trained. In accordance with the Ministry of Education rules all the credentials of the headmistress and teachers were submitted and approved after careful verification. Das' statement that maids and secretaries are made as teachers shows further ignorance.

The school is managed under the direct supervision of the owner of the school, who is well qualified for the job. Apart from this, authorities from the Ministry of Education regularly inspect the school's academic and administrative affairs. The school has an efficient academic and administrative system.

That the KIS pays only KD 4,000 per student to the transport contractor is another lie. On the contrary we have been paying up to KD 10,000 per student while collecting only KD 7,000. Air-conditioned buses have been provided in the past.

The KIS management cannot entertain all those who approach for job, transport contract and such other favours. Such people are using the Letters to the Editor column to publish lies. They should not be allowed to do it.

H. Ibrahim Abdulla Al Qutailmi, Sponsor, Kuwait Indian School

Understanding nature

SIR: This refers to a recent report "The damned facts of para-psychology" (AT, March 8).

If we study ourselves in relation to the cosmic self and our surroundings with an open mind, and are willing to make amends, then our understanding about nature and the universe would be more vivid.

The noblest exercise of the mind is to study the work of the Creator. There is no magic. No witchcraft. To widen our knowledge we have to develop ourselves. But in today's world adults do not allow children to grow up in tune with nature.

Materialism leads to a false sense of gratification. Students are studying the universe. But teachers who teach psy-

chology, philosophy or theology, don't know much about their subjects. Therefore, a student has to study the universe as a whole — time, space, mind, body, spirit and soul — to understand the universe in its entirety.

P.A. Alexander, Safat.

Goans are disappointed

SIR: Frankly, it is good news that Air India is operating three flights to Goa instead of the one-weekly service. But we are disappointed that Goans have to wait for four hours at the Sahar Airport. This is discrimination.

Why can't Air India have weekly direct flights to Goa? Everybody knows that there are more Goans in Kuwait than in any other Gulf state.

Passengers also have to pay excess baggage charges. If someone has 30 kilos excess baggage he has to pay KD2 per kilo, or KD100. This is too much. Goans must get a cargo storage facility.

Vincent D'Souza should be thanked for taking up the Goan cause.

C. Mascarenhas, Safat.

Post office badly needed

SIR: Sabah Al Salem is a newly developed area and a large number of foreigners live there. But unfortunately there is no post office in the area. A new post office building has been built near Sabah Al Salem police station but it has yet to be opened.

Letters are delivered to this area twice a month and we have to travel a long distance to buy stamps or post letters.

Hence I request the concerned authorities to open a post office in the area.

Wilbert Attudawa, Sabah Al Salem.

Financial help sought

SIR: I belong to a Muslim community in Baroda (Vadodra), India, and we are constructing a community guest house. The

community comprises mainly of service class people and therefore do not have enough funds to meet the construction cost.

The total estimated construction cost is one million rupees. We are raising donations from charitable institutions, zakat houses and individuals, and hope to meet about 75 per cent of the cost. Still we are short by 25 per cent (Rs 250,000).

We appeal through your newspaper to the Kuwait Zakat House to help us generously for this community work. We have heard about the charitable work the Zakat House is doing for the poor Muslims of the world.

We hope that in the ensuing holy month of Ramadan, the Zakat House will help us.

Abizair Messiwala, Vadodra, India.

Please publish currency rates

SIR: The currency rates of different countries, that your newspaper has discontinued to publish, are very important to most of your readers. When the rates were published in the Arab Times many readers used to turn to the currency page first.

Majority of the newspapers try to give more news to their readers but sadly your newspaper omits important information.

N. Abdul Majeed, Safat.

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Handwritten signature or mark.



# Big business warms up to space research

By Mark Clayton

BOSTON: After a period of apathy and dismay following the Challenger disaster, the United States appears to be reentering — if only at a crawl — the race to commercialise space.

Joseph Allen, for one, plans to be a part of that race. This former astronaut-turned-businessman wants to be landlord of the first industrial park in space. In his mind's eye he can see it floating in frigid solitude 230 miles above the earth — a \$500 million 35-foot-long, 14.5-foot-wide space station, or Industrial Space Facility (ISF).

Not to be confused with the \$14.6 billion publicly financed space station being built by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Dr Allen's ISF is a much smaller, for-profit effort.

"We are like a general architect's firm that has designed a fairly substantial office building," says Allen, marketing director of Space Industries Inc., of Houston. "We have taken the ISF this far on speculation, the conviction that it is important, and that there will be a market."

## Reasons

But the long-term success of ISF is strongly linked to the gradual deployment of NASA's space station, which seems likely to be hit hard by the recent congressional budget cut compromise. NASA has gone ahead bravely, recently awarding \$5 billion in space station contracts to Rockwell International, McDonnell Douglas Astronautics, Boeing Aerospace, and General Electric. The space station was supposed to be built by 1992,

## Budget realities and the Challenger disaster have brought back to earth NASA's dreams of colonies on the moon and factories in space, but the good news is that big business in the US is taking an interest in space research

but probably won't be finished until later.

A self-proclaimed optimist, Allen sees reasons to be hopeful even though the ISF is just a schematic drawing at this point. Allen says the ISF will be in orbit by 1992. But whether it ever flies depends most on US businesses, and whether they will commit to lease part of it. Success also depends on the reliability of the space shuttle.

Yet, a number of experts say "cautious optimism" is growing.

"There has been a subtle shift in mood, from dead in the water to a greater anticipation," says John Egan, who heads the Egan Group, a consulting company in Washington, D.C. which helps prepare business plans for companies trying to get research projects into space.

Reasons for the shift in mood include the following: — A fast-approaching date for launching the first, manned space shuttle launch since Challenger, scheduled for next June 2.

— Nearly \$5 billion in space station contracts have been awarded. Presidential and congressional political support for it remains strong, though it is likely the recent \$76 billion budget cut will slow development.

— The appointment of James Rose, an experienced aerospace industry executive and

commercial space research expert to head the recently reorganized Office of Commercial Programmes at NASA.

— Advances of rival nations — the Soviet Union, Japan, France — in crucial areas. The Soviets, for example, have had a series of manned space stations in orbit since the early '70s; and the French have excelled in remote sensing satellites and launch vehicles.

Excitement generated by private launch services has been one notable exception to the period of sluggish interest in commercial space activity. Since Reagan mandated private companies to launch most commercial payloads, a bevy of US start-ups and aerospace giants have been vying to launch satellites and experimental packages into orbit.

But Peter E. Glaser, an authority on space applications and vice-president at Arthur D. Little Inc., in Cambridge, Mass., says the US still lags behind Europe, Japan, and other countries in recognising the growing commercial importance of space. Though Europe has scaled back its space budget a bit, Dr Glaser cites a recent European commitment to spend \$14 billion on new space projects and a Japanese pledge to spend \$40 billion on space within 15 years, compared with the stop, start, and cut

approach to NASA funding. "Slowly, people are realising the question we must resolve is whether the US is going to be No. 2, No. 3, or No. 4 in space," Glaser says. "The danger of slipping to fourth place would have some tremendous economic effects, not immediately but, in the long run."

## Approach

Congress and the President support the space station programme, he says, yet "the problem is that in the space game all these other countries talk about 12-15-20-year programme plans and then commit funds to them. They have the advantage of experience and data. If you outsped your competition by a factor of 3 to 5, obviously you will be ahead technically."

A good example of the stut-ter-step approach to space budgeting has come in the wake of the 508 point stock market drop Oct. 19. The \$76 billion, two-year budget cut means NASA's share of the cuts could total 3.5 per cent of a lean \$9.3 billion budget, says David Dickerson, an aide for the House Subcommittee on Science, Space, and Technology.

Such a cut could mean a space station project receiving just 50 per cent of the \$767 million currently appropriated for the first year of the project, Dickerson says. Costs for the first phase of the programme are put at \$13.6 billion, but some experts put total costs at more than \$20 billion by the mid-1990s.

"We know for sure the cuts (to NASA) are going to be substantial," Dickerson says. "It is likely that deployment of the station will be delayed" from the 1994 target date. Despite

the cuts, aerospace companies like McDonnell Douglas and Boeing are glad to go after even these relatively small contracts since defense spending seems likely to be cut back in coming years.

Budget realities have also brought back to earth entrepreneurial dreams of colonies on the moon, factories in space, and multiple manned stations in orbit. Serious space entrepreneurs seem grateful.

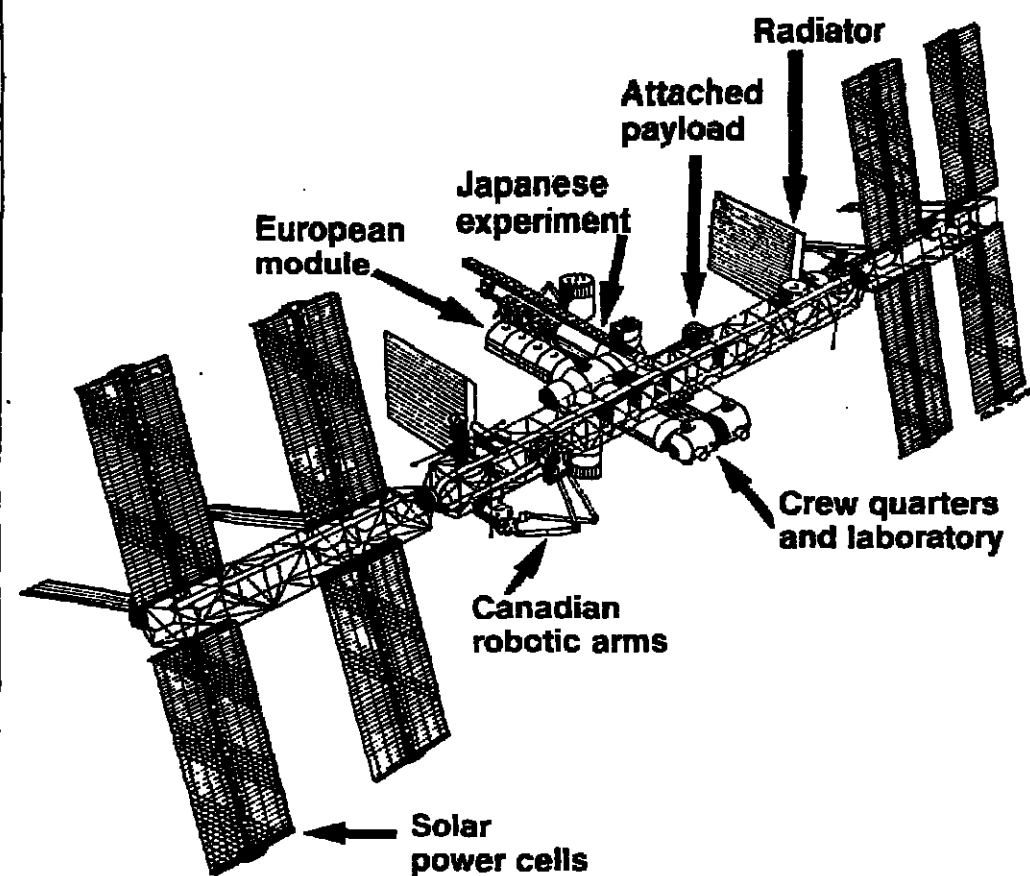
"There was a lot of hype that was building up three or four years ago," says Charles Bugg, director of the centre of a macromolecular crystallography at the University of Alabama, Birmingham. "It's been a chance to sit back and take a hard-nosed look at reality, and gain a more real perception of how space can be used."

Also indicating a warming of business toward space research is Lawrence Herbolzheimer, deputy to Rose in NASA's Office of Commercial Programmes. "After the shuttle accident, people's spirits couldn't have been lower," Herbolzheimer says. Now there is "feverish activity," he says, and an upbeat mood. Two recent conferences in Nashville and in Houston were attended by hundreds of companies.

Herbolzheimer points to 16 industry, government, and academic consortiums, spawned by NASA money, continuing to work on space-related projects and experiments. Dr Bugg's work is with one such consortium.

John Glaab, manager of NASA's small business and innovation research programme, says Congress and the President have recognised the need for small businesses, inventors, and entrepreneurs to

## NASA's space station



Nasa's space station was supposed to be built by 1992 but due to budget cuts, it won't be in orbit till 1994. In the meantime, a private company plans to launch a smaller version in 1992.

become interested in space experimentation. It is these small fry, not the big corporations, who are most likely to risk development of innovative products and processes.

"We know a lot of these people are inexperienced, and we do everything we can to help them along," Glaab says of the 20,000 solicitations received by his office last year. NASA saw potential merit in 2,000 of those, says Glaab, and sent those back with suggestions.

Ultimately, 206 proposals were accepted and sponsors given \$50,000 and six months to come up with a project.

Bugg at the University of Alabama has developed an experiment using space to grow high-quality protein crystals. It will fly on the next shuttle. But others won't be as fortunate, he says, pointing up problems with the system of getting business research projects into space.

Ultimately, about 50 per cent

of the Phase 1 candidates receive further funding, and permission to fly their experiments. Then they must wait for space aboard the shuttle to become available. Some experiments attract the interest of venture capitalists, other simply run out of time, patience, and funds. One of the biggest hurdles to doing business in space is having the time and patience to get through bureaucratic red tape at NASA. The Christian Science Monitor.

## Coldest wind tunnel in Europe

COLOGNE (Dad): Airlines don't fly at altitudes where temperatures plummet to -173°C. The temperature at their cruising altitude of between 10,000 and 12,000 metres is -40°C. Even telecom satellites orbiting the Earth at an altitude of 36km are not exposed to such extreme cold.

Yet, scientists cannot dispense with testing aerospace models in conditions far colder than planes and satellites are likely to encounter in practice.

The coldest wind tunnel in Europe has just been taken into service at the German Aerospace Research Establishment (DFVLR) in Cologne, where models are put through their paces at -173°C, a temperature at which proverbial Siberian cold is like a breath of warm spring air.

"We aren't simulating extremely low outdoor temperatures here," says project director Gunter Vieweger. "We have them in reality." The cryo-wind tunnel took five years to build. It is spherical, 60 metres long and 20 metres wide. A special insulation system was devised to seal the concrete cylinder off hermetically from the outside world.

Liquid nitrogen is used to



This wind tunnel (photo), taken into service in Cologne, Federal Republic of Germany, by the German Aerospace Research Establishment (DFVLR), is the coldest in Europe. It can be used to test aircraft models at temperatures as low as -173°C.

reduce the temperature of gas circulating in the tunnel to the working temperature. Models of airliner prototypes are tested for design and skin stability, for aerodynamic resistance, residual current flow and surface changes at wind speeds several times the speed of sound. The first aircraft to

undergo scale-model trials is the Alpha Jet, a military trainer, but the Cologne research scientists have more ambitious schemes in mind. They are to test prototype European space laboratories. Their work will both promote space research and boost passenger safety in air transport.

## Unexpected benefit for marine scientists

# How the Black Sea has taken Chernobyl fallout

By Beatrice Lacoste

RADIOACTIVE fallout from the explosion of the Chernobyl nuclear reactor has provided an unexpected benefit for marine scientists.

It has given them the opportunity to uncover the mysteries of the Black Sea and to monitor the impact of air pollution in the North Sea and the Mediterranean.

In the Black Sea an international team of oceanographers is tracking the fallout as it settles into the marine system of this 413,000 sq km body of water which is surrounded by the Soviet Union, Romania, Bulgaria and Turkey.

The Black Sea is the closest salt water body to the Chernobyl reactor site and it is also connected to the accident site by the Dnepr River.

One of the international team, Dr Kenneth Buesseler, a chemist at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute in Massachusetts, said, "The Black Sea is unique and very little is known about it."

It is unique in the way it consists of two distinct layers with brackish surface water separated from a large basement of more saline deep water.

In a report of the impact of the fallout from Chernobyl, published in Nature, Dr Buesseler said that radioactive isotopes acted like markers indicating the pattern of water

flow and chemical processes in the Black Sea.

It was fortuitous that the accident occurred midway through an international research programme in which scientists were taking periodic samples of sediments from a number of marine sites.

The work involved placing sediment traps on the sea bed, and when they were recovered measuring the way material settled in the ocean.

A group of French scientists from the National Centre for Scientific Research, CNRS, was among the research team.

When the disaster occurred they were in the middle of monitoring the Mediterranean 25 km off the coast of Corsica, at a depth of 200 metres, with sediment traps to record fluxes of material settling in the ocean.

Before Chernobyl, the observation focussed on the fallout of industrial waste to

understand how the ocean assimilates and gets rid of them.

The studies show that the microscopic plankton play a leading role in these processes. Once in the marine food chain, they are digested and excreted by larger organisms.

This leads to an aggregation of debris that sinks rapidly. Sediment traps at various depths showed up to 100 metres per day.

The traps were used to find the time radioactive fallout first arrived at various depths. The samples showed that it took less than 8 days for the Chernobyl fallout to be absorbed by surface plankton and carried 200 metres down in the Mediterranean.

The possible importance of micro-organisms in the processing of marine pollution was suspected in the early sixties.

"This could have dire consequences on the biological cycle of the planet as a whole".

## NAMAZ-E-JANAZA

The wife of Mr. Mirza Inayatullah,  
Managing Director of Gulf Airconditioning Co.  
Kuwait  
expired yesterday.  
Her Namaz-E-Janaza will be held today at 4 pm  
after Asr prayers at the Sulaybiyah graveyard.  
Phone: 2440686

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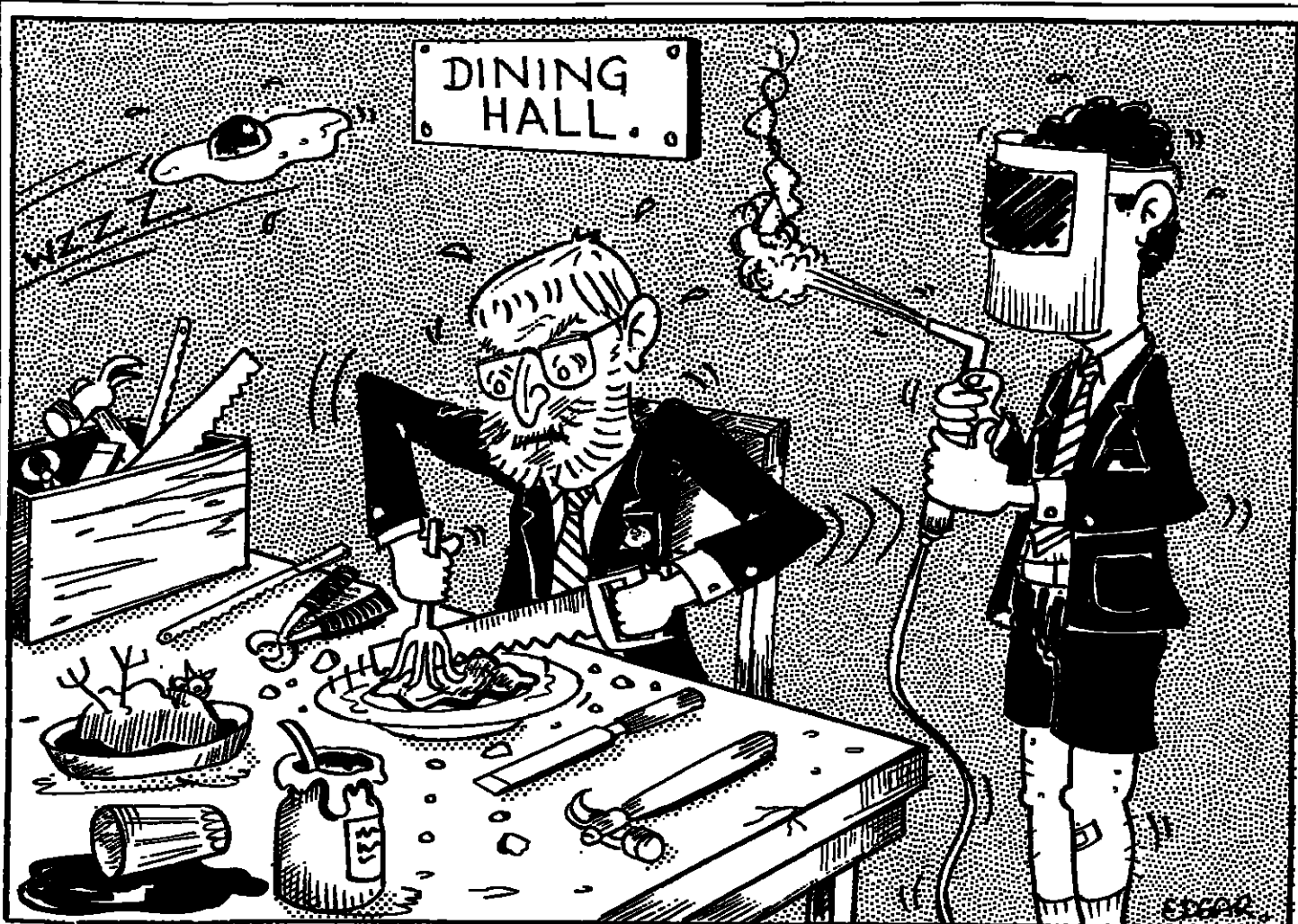
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## School dinners

By Keith Wells

Obvious culprits like goat, camel or yak were soon dismissed and public opinion decided that minced buffalo was the most commonly used in the shepherd's pie while minced dog was preferred for the lasagne. Mashed potatoes were made from polyfilla or any acceptable substitute, such as dehydrated wallpaper.

I'm not exactly sure what the verb 'to pud' means, but after a dose of our pudding you sure stayed pudged. It was a sort of grey dough, shaped like a torpedo that swelled up to three times its original size as soon as it got into your stomach. It bloated up so much your skin became all tight and shiny and your belly button turned inside out. After a while you forgot what the bathroom was for...

They had two recipes for fish, one was called Fish Portuguese, the other was titled Fish Mornay. The type of fish they used was never identified, but it was more like mackintosh than mackerel, and full of bones. Fish Portuguese was dripping with red stuff, a sort of green pepper and tomato slime. Fish Mornay was served in its original sea water that had been flavoured with flour and a gram or two of something cheesy, probably socks.

Meat dishes usually involved mince because it is harder to identify the responsible animal.

Gravity. You had to dig it out with a spoon and it resisted like mad, finally giving way with a disgusting keerrflop. Like a pig's trotter heaving up out of the clay and slime.

It wasn't just dinner either, breakfast was just as bad. Even the cereals only went sag, wrinkle, flop! They could do things with eggs that the plastics industry still hasn't patented. It's a little-known piece of history that the frisbee was invented at our school from a fried egg. They even ruined toast which came out looking and tasting like a page from a Dead Sea Scroll. Bacon! My God! Greasy wet sheets of rubbery, salty stuff that tasted as if it had been used as a gasket on a drainage pump, you couldn't cut it with a knife, the blade bounced off. In the old days that bacon would have been priceless as a substitute for chainmail.

But it was a very economical form of catering, I'm sure they used the washing up water for the next day's soup.

The whole question of bad cooking reminds me of the time I cooked a meal for some outpatients at a halfway house for mental patients. The menu included potato pancakes. Now I wasn't exactly sure how to pan cake a potato, but I

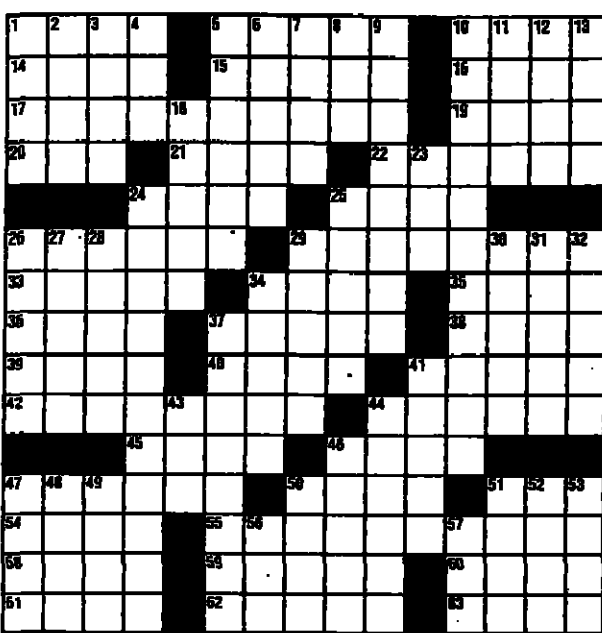
decided the best way would be to grate the potatoes, mould them into patties and then fry them.

If you have never grated potatoes, my advice is don't bother. What happens is that after a few minutes they turn a sort of grey blue and dissolve into sludge. However, it was too late to substitute, so I then fried this grey blue sludge which promptly turned into fried blue grey sludge. By the time my guests were sitting down to lunch I was frantic. I tried to explain that a disaster had occurred and that it would be better to send out for Kentucky Fried Dog or Wormburgers, or anything! But they wouldn't hear of it, and insisted on trying my 'delicious' food.

What followed was the most uncomfortable hour of my life. Oodles and saahs of delight greeted the sloppy pancakes that looked like slurry from a cobalt refinery, though it wasn't nearly so tasty. No matter. The assembled crew slurped it down and declared every mouthful was delicious.

The trouble was that they were all crazy, and desperate to prove they were getting sicker. Any truly sane person would have spat out the first mouthful and demanded why I was trying to poison them. The crazies, on the other hand, went through an elaborate charade of normality, complete with flowery compliments and everyone requested a second helping. Which I served with a kind of generous malice.

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Rollcall word
  - 5 A Lesson from —: Fugard play
  - 10 Location
  - 14 Horace's forte
  - 15 Linger
  - 16 Consumer
  - 17 Loss of plants etc. to extreme cold
  - 19 Tableland in the West
  - 20 Anjou season
  - 21 Even Steven
  - 22 Least believable excuse
  - 24 Principal
  - 25 63 Across, for example
  - 26 Oriental skiff
  - 29 Left an airplane
  - 33 Asserts
  - 34 Bamako's country
  - 35 Half: Prefix
  - 36 Isle of song
  - 37 Style of column
  - 38 Aesir chief
  - 39 Mortgage, for example
  - 40 Chemical endings
  - 41 Camp rouser
  - 42 Thomas Gray et al.
  - 44 Saunters
  - 45 Lessen
  - 46 Blaze
  - 47 Luanda's locale
  - 50 Mexican money
  - 51 Actress
  - 54 dance
  - 55 Highway hazard
  - 58 Mideast notable
  - 59 Aptitude
  - 60 Sleep inducer of a sort
  - 61 Repair
  - 62 Like the Sahara
  - 63 March 15, to Caesar
  - 13 Part of QED
  - 18 Kett and James
  - 23 — glance
  - 24 Diver's perch
  - 25 Snack shops
  - 26 Fabulous fur
  - 27 Benefit
  - 28 Brouhaha
  - 29 Ventures
  - 30 Light anchor
  - 31 Dickinson of Amherst
  - 32 Eats well
  - 34 — Carlo
  - 37 Holders for spinners
  - 41 Nonmetallic element
  - 43 Ending for an adjective
  - 44 It usually loves company
  - 46 Cat family member
  - 47 Intersection
  - 48 City in W. Alaska
  - 49 Smile
  - 50 Design
  - 51 Large cross
  - 52 Large lot
  - 53 Makes do, with "our"
  - 56 — mode
  - 57 Stat for Brett
- DOWN**
- 1 Julia Ward —
  - 2 Fix copy
  - 3 City of France
  - 4 Part of i.e.
  - 5 Notable designer to movie stars
  - 6 West Coast player
  - 7 Reeky
  - 8 Wing, to an architect
  - 9 Concerning word parts
  - 10 Gazebo
  - 11 Words of understanding
  - 12 Nickname for Teresa

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ K963 ♥ KJ7 ♦ 95 ♣ KJ63

The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Dbl ?

What action do you take?  
A.—After a takeout double of partner's opening bid, there is only one way to show strength—you must redouble. Any other action denies holding as many as 11 points.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ 9632 ♥ KJ7 ♦ 95 ♣ KJ63

The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Dbl ?

What action do you take?  
A.—Had there been no interference, you would have responded one spade. Now, however, East likely has four spades for his takeout double, so the chances of a 4-4 fit in the suit are greatly reduced. Instead of bidding such a shabby suit, we prefer one no trump, showing a balanced hand of 8-10 points.

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠ KQ73 ♥ 872 ♦ AJ103 ♣ 85

The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♥ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?  
A.—This is a close decision. On this auction partner must have five hearts, so we feel that your three hearts and ruffing value in clubs merits a correction to four hearts. However, we won't blame you if you decided to pass—three no trump could easily be the right contract.

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠ KQ73 ♥ 872 ♦ AJ103 ♣ 85

The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♥ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

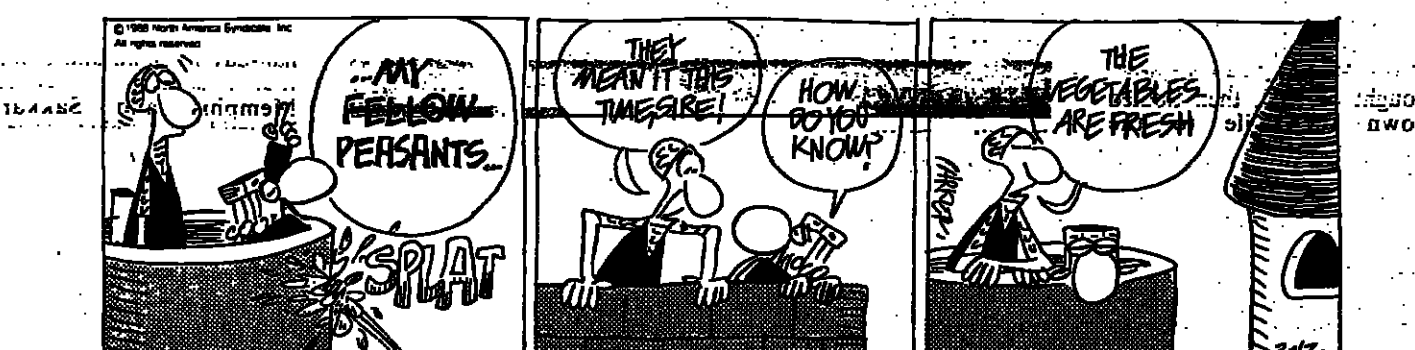
What action do you take?  
A.—Since partner can have up to 10 points for his raise, we can think of many hands he might have that would offer good play for game. However, that does not mean that we would charge into four spades. We prefer a game try of three clubs, telling partner we need help in that suit for optimum results.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

BUFF MISS RAJAH  
ANIL ONEIT EVADE  
NCAIA OVAL DOVER  
JACKANAPES WAN  
OGRES DENT NAE  
SEEDS ENTO FEUD  
EARS LOOSE  
DEFENDS FORGERY  
EQUATE SEND  
FUNT STUD ERATO  
TIC TAPE ROVER  
PTA EXPRESSING  
PAINE MOAN SADA  
AGONY ASTI ETON  
DENSE NEED SENS

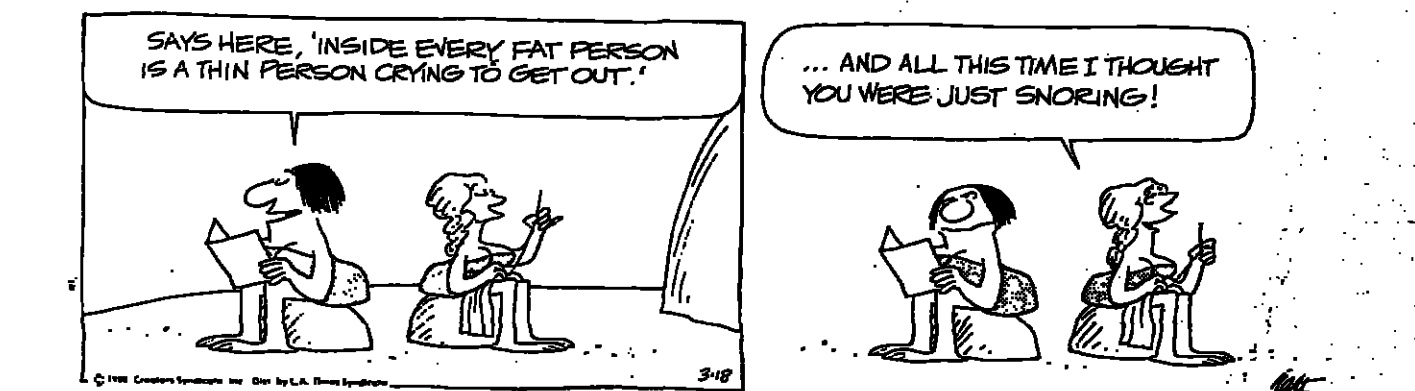
## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart




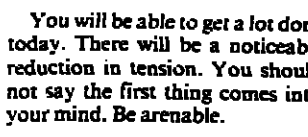
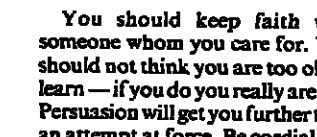





## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS

 <b>Aries (March 20 - April 18)</b> You will be able to get a lot done today. There will be a noticeable reduction in tension. You should not say the first thing comes into your mind. Be amenable.	 <b>Cancer (June 21 - July 21)</b> You should keep faith with someone whom you care for. You should not think you are too old to learn—if you do you really are old. Persuasion will get you further than an attempt at force. Be cordial.	 <b>Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)</b> You have no reason to doubt your abilities. However, no do you have any reason to feel that there are no limits to what you can do. You should try to be a little more patient. Be courteous.	 <b>Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan 19)</b> You should not allow work to preponderate over your personal life. You will not have the energy you require but you should ensure you do not squander the time at your disposal. Avoid over-spending. Be a little more optimistic.
 <b>Taurus (April 19 - May 19)</b> You should not allow yourself to be misled or deceived. The prospects are good but you will still have to work hard. You should not waste time nor should you dissipate your energies. Be tactful.	 <b>Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)</b> You will make good progress with a financial matter. You should try to slow down a little without becoming lethargic. Make sure you do not catch a chill. Be more attentive.	 <b>Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)</b> The more favourable planetary influences will help you to keep out of serious trouble. You should have more faith in yourself and those close to you. Do not raise your voice and do not pretend to knowledge you have not got. Be affable.	 <b>Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)</b> You will feel rather belligerent and should take care not to get into an argument. Make sure you do not eat more than you need to stay at your chosen weight. Try to be a little more patient. Be solicitous.
 <b>Gemini (May 20 - June 20)</b> You should keep calm even if you are provoked. There is nothing to be ashamed of. Make sure you stick to your principles at whatever the cost. Be a little more patient.	 <b>Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)</b> Today you will be able to do something special to please your partner. You should have the courage of your convictions. Do not allow yourself to be intimidated. Be respectful.	 <b>Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)</b> You should leave a little earlier and then you will not be in such a rush. Do something to improve your state of health. You should do all you can to avoid creating problems for yourself. Be a little more circumspect.	 <b>Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)</b> You will be able to have a pleasant day. You have the wind in your sails but are liable to lose your way. You must avoid being impatient or intolerant. Be a little more frugal.

## FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

## PREGNANT WOMEN SHOULD WEAR SEAT BELTS

QUESTION: Is it OK for a pregnant woman to wear a seat belt?

ANSWER: Absolutely. A pregnant woman can and should wear a seat belt and shoulder harness if they are available. In the United States, the largest cause of death in pregnant women is car accidents. In one study, 50 per cent of maternal death occurred during automobile collisions.

Unfortunately, many pregnant women find being strapped in uncomfortable and fear that the seat belt could harm their foetus during an accident.

The problem is, most women don't know how to properly position seat belts during pregnancy.

The seat belt should be placed as low as possible across the upper thighs. It should be fastened as snugly as is possible, while still

remaining comfortable.

The shoulder belt should cross the body between the breasts, allowing as much as 3 inches of slack between the chest and belt.

During a long drive, it may be necessary to periodically readjust the seat belt and shoulder strap to maintain comfort and safety.

QUESTION: My optalmologist said I have a cataract. Must I be operated on right now?

ANSWER: When it has been determined that the cataract is the cause of your vision problems, you and your doctor will decide when to have the surgery, based on how your present vision is affecting you. Is it interfering with activities that you want to do? A pilot or an accountant would opt for surgery before a retired person. It is not necessary to wait months or years for the

cataract to "mature." When vision loss from the cataract prevents you from functioning normally, it is time for surgery.

Waiting too long can sometimes pose problems because an overripe or hypermature cataract can be dangerous to the eye and make the operation more difficult.

Until you do have the surgery, it is sometimes helpful to have your eyeglasses prescription made stronger. Special sunglasses that block visible blue light and ultraviolet rays may shield your eyes from glare and make your vision seem a little clearer, sharper and more comfortable.

I THOUGHT YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW: This column exists to bring you information and answers to questions about your health and medical care.

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Set on the banks of the legendary River Nile, Cairo is a bustling metropolis that blends mosques, churches, palaces and bazaars with high-rise buildings and wide boulevards.

Nothing happens in Egypt that does not happen in Cairo

## City of a thousand years

THE graceful minarets of stately mosques vie with slim modern buildings along the skyline. Shady parks overlooking the river and flowering gardens along wide boulevards refresh the eyes against the desert edges of this magnificent city astride the Nile.

Cairo, Egypt's capital and largest city in Africa, sways with the movement of 14 million people — the ever-present multitudes. Located at the apex of the Delta, this great metropolis is the meeting place of Africa and Arabia, Europe and Asia.

Throughout most of its history, Cairo has been the bank and warehouse of East-West trade. Because of its location, it was the most convenient junction for the transshipment of goods, which arrived by ship from the East via the Red Sea and from there were carried overland the short distance to Cairo. Here they were stored, bought and sold, then floated down the Nile to the Mediterranean and on to Europe.

Few capitals in the world have quite the same all-encompassing position as Cairo does today. It is Egypt's economic, political, administrative, cultural, educational, entertainment, military, transportation, and historical centre — all in one. Almost nothing happens in Egypt that does not happen in Cairo. This is at once its blessing and its curse.

### Sightseeing

Cairo's four universities attract men and women from all over the Middle East, Asia and Africa, as they did in ancient times. Al Azhar, considered the oldest continuous university in history, is the most important centre of religious learning in the Muslim world. Cairo has fabulous museums, churches, and mosques. Its bazaars are the best in the eastern Mediterranean, set in narrow winding alleys in an atmosphere permeated with spices and incense.



The Khan El Khalili Bazaar. Its narrow, winding alleys are permeated with the aroma of spices and the smell of incense.

What to see in Cairo depends largely on the length of your visit and your interests. There is something for everyone, but clearly there is a great deal more of certain things, such as antiquities, than in almost any other place in the world. Itineraries can be based on visiting the sites in the order of their historic, artistic or archaeological importance or by exploring one district of Cairo at a time.

The first approach is probably more useful for those whose time is limited because one can quickly make a list of priorities and design a sightseeing day around it.

On the other hand, exploring one district of Cairo at a time is more fun, especially for those who plan an extended visit. In the long run, it might even be more productive because Cairo is a very large, sprawling city. It has the same congestion problems afflicting all big cities and one can waste a great deal

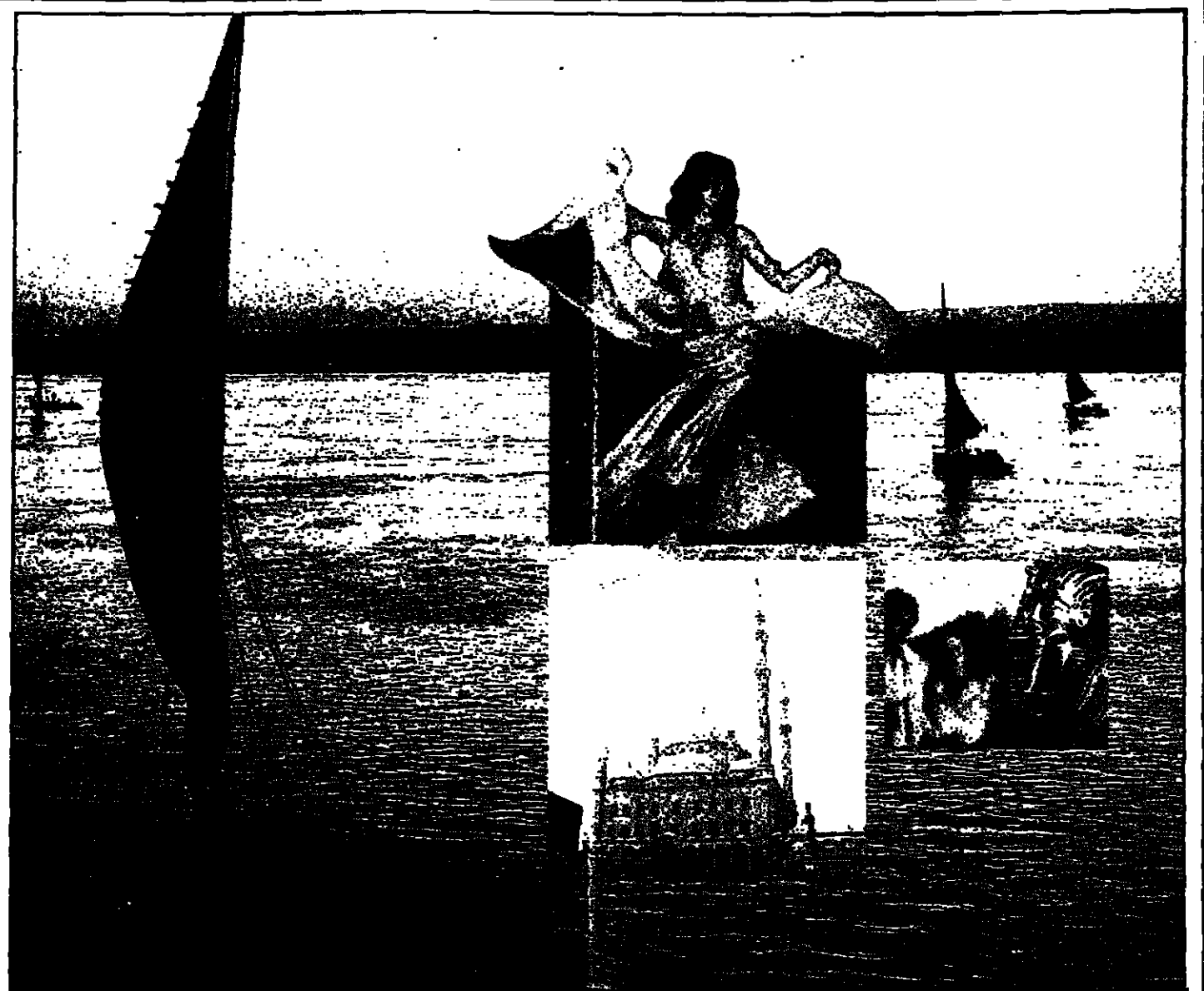
of time in traffic. If you are not already traveling in a group, we would strongly recommend you join an organised city tour on your first visit to Cairo. It is the least costly way to tour and it will enable you to cover most of the essentials in a short time.

Unless you have a special interest in one aspect of Egypt, a generalised tour will be more satisfying than concentrating on only one aspect for the whole day. If, after one or two city tours, you want to strike out on your own, you will have a better idea of what to see and how to see it.

Hiring a car or taxi with or without a guide and planning your own itinerary enables you to see and remain at the places that interest you most, but it can be expensive. If you do decide to go off on your own, be sure to set the fee in advance for a hired car, guide, donkey, camel, carriage, horse, or whatever. If at any time you should have trouble with a taxi driver, peddler, vendor, guide, or dragoman, you should report it immediately to the Tourist Office or the nearest Tourist Police. A list of local travel agents in Cairo and Alexandria is available in a local publication entitled Cairo By Night and Day, available from hotels and airlines. Some, but not all, operate their own tours of Cairo and Upper Egypt or can arrange them on short notice. The large companies, such as American Express and Mistr Travel, have regularly scheduled tours that you can purchase and join with other travellers. As an example, the half-day Pyramid and Sphinx tour is L.E. 14. An all day Memphis and Sakkara, Pyramids and Sphinx tour is L.E. 25. Either a city tour or a tour of Old Cairo is L.E. 15 each and the evening programme for the Sound and Light show at the Pyramids is L.E. 12.

How to get around: You may rent a car with or without a driver, to be picked up at the airport on arrival. Hertz and other international car rental firms have offices at Cairo airport and major hotels. This is particularly useful in helping foreigners cope with the taxi shortage and/or overcharge. On the first visit to Egypt, it is not recommended renting a car without driver. Language becomes a problem when you strike out alone, and driving in Cairo is not easy. Besides, the cost of an English-speaking driver is so little (L.E. 7 per day from Hertz) that it is worth it. We strongly recommend it for

those who are not on an organised tour, and for business travellers who need to move around the city a great deal. In the latter case, it is smart to hire a car and driver by the week or longer, especially if you are likely to have several appointments each day. A car and driver can save you hours of frustration as well as time. In addition to car rental firms, Limo has cars for hire. Rates are higher than the usual tariff but they are fixed prices. Taxis may be your best bet and can be hired by the hour, half day or full day. By the hour the cost is about L.E. 5; for a half day, L.E. 15-20, depending on your ability to bargain. For an eight-hour day, the cost will range from L.E. 30-40, including driver and gas, and more if



There is something for everyone in Cairo, depending on the length of your visit and interests.

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the day stretches late into evening. Because of the great demand for hired cars, students and others with cars are free-lancing. They charge whatever price the traffic will bear, so do not hesitate to bargain with them.

A novel way of beating traffic jams is to use river taxis which ply the Nile from early morning until late afternoon. They are crowded and best avoided during rush hours, but they are a great way to go from city centre to Coptic Cairo. Departure from Maspero Terminal between Ramesh Hilton and Radio/Television Building. Cost is 10 piasters!

There are also trams (street cars) which are a very economical way to travel but not recommended for the first time

traveller or for those unfamiliar with Arabic.

Hotels: After a decade of hotel shortage, Cairo is now well equipped with hotels in the deluxe and first-class categories. Seven well known American and several European chains are represented. During the high season, it is wise for visitors to have confirmed reservations, especially between December and April, and to have their confirmation notice in hand upon arrival in Egypt.

Deluxe: single with bath L.E. 50-94; double L.E. 62-113. First Class: single with bath L.E. 27-55; double L.E. 33-60. Tourist: single with breakfast L.E. 20-50; double L.E. 33-60. Pension: single with bath and

half board L.E. 12-33; double L.E. 17-44.

A 12 per cent tax is added through Egypt on the hotel and meal charge, and a municipal tax of 2 to 5 per cent, depending on the city.

English is widely spoken in hotels throughout Egypt.

The government designates hotels by stars, ranging from five (deluxe) to one (pension). In our experience all but a few hotels are overrated by at least one and sometimes two stars. Maintenance is a problem even in the hotels belonging to reputable international chains. The Ministry of Tourism has begun a review to re-evaluate the rating of each hotel; however, it will be several years before the review is completed and new ratings assigned.

## Tips on visiting ancient tombs

A VISIT to the Egyptian Museum, or to Memphis and Sakkara, is only an introduction to the antiquities of Egypt. Not until you have made a trip to Luxor, Aswan and the other sites of Upper Egypt does the magnitude of ancient Egypt's civilisation become apparent. The 534 miles from Cairo to Aswan are dotted with ancient monuments and temples, with more being discovered all the time.

Strictly speaking, Upper Egypt is that narrow strip of green which stretches from the apex of the Delta 14 miles north of Cairo to the first cataract at Shellal, about six miles south of Aswan. It resembles the long stem of the lotus of which the Delta, or Lower Egypt, is the flower.

Only the most important sites are described here, but those who have the time will find dozens of lesser known places with fabulous monuments and ruins to explore.

Upper Egypt Over 700 tombs have been discovered on the West Bank of Nile at Luxor. If you were to visit only 15 of the best you would be exhausted and probably saturated with Egyptian art for a long time to come. Do not overdo your sightseeing. If your time is limited, visit only a few tombs. You should not attempt to see all the tombs unless you

are staying at least four days in Luxor.

If you rely only a guide to explain the drawings, you will miss a great deal of their artistic value. For maximum benefit, familiarise yourself in advance with the names of the gods, the important Pharaohs and their representations in wall paintings. If you plan an extensive visit to the tombs, you will benefit immensely by carrying with you a book that details the drawings with pictures and explanations.

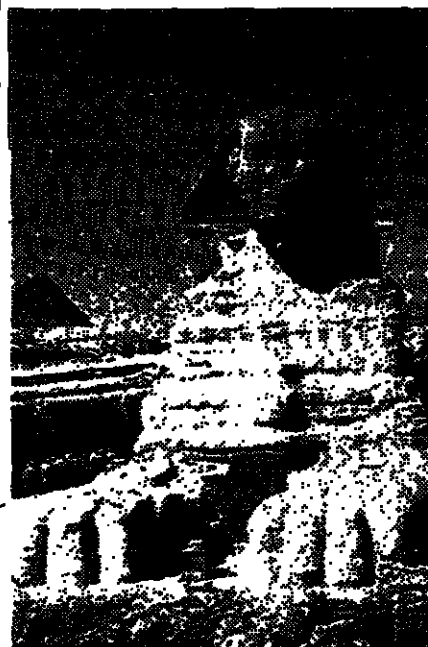
Other useful items for the trip to Upper Egypt are a flashlight, premoistened face cloths, and moisturising cream. At sites of antiquity, on trails or in cars, dust from the sand will collect on your skin. Cleanse your face quickly with a moistened cloth, follow it with a moisturiser and you can feel refreshed quickly and easily. Also, bring fresh lemons, lemon drops or mints, a collapsible drinking cup, a small thermos for water on sightseeing rounds in the open, and a flash attachment for your camera for picture-taking inside tombs. Keep cameras, films, and lenses in plastic bags when not in use as protection against the sand and dust.

And last of all, you will need a strong pair of legs, comfortable shoes and a zeal for tomb exploring — no matter what!

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## Cairo — by night

CAIRO has a variety of nightclubs from which to choose. Many have romantic settings in outdoor gardens of terraces where sky. Some of the best night spots are the nightclubs and discotheques of hotels. Large cabarets, mostly for men, are located on the road to the Pyramids.

Nightclub shows do not start before 11.00 pm. Some clubs have both local and European floorshows; others have none. Orchestras play all the latest international hits and Latin American or European music for dancing.

Cairo is the R and R centre of the Middle East — especially for men working in the surrounding countries where the deserts are dry in more ways than climatically. As a result, Cairo has a large number of cabarets, and they are to be distinguished from the nightclubs and discotheques.

Also, in Cairo, the term discotheque has a slightly different meaning from that in most other countries. It is actually a small nightclub with stereo music rather than a live band, but there frequently is a show, usually a performance by an Oriental dancer, which will last 30 to 45 minutes. Prices are less than at nightclubs or cabarets. At all the better night-

clubs in the city you are required to reserve a table for dinner and dancing.

Contrary to what you might imagine, the age group at discotheques runs the gamut. It appears to be related directly to the decibel level of the music — the higher the count, the lower the age.

If you have the opportunity, be sure to see a performance by a leading Oriental dancer, or belly dancer, as they are known. When performed by a first-rate artist, the dance is one of tremendous beauty and artistic skill, and is not the bumpy-and-grinds version too often passed off by third-rate dancers as the real thing.

Visitors might be interested to know that the standards for dancers are changing. In the last few years the impact of rock and other modern beats can be seen in the movements and heard in the music of the dancer, particularly in the tempo. The classic form is slower with movements more elongated. There is an interplay and subtle flirtation between the dancer and the music. It is graceful and sophisticated. The form that is popular now is noisier and more detached. There is a frenzy to the movement that is not part of the old classical form.



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- Fish Patia
- Stuffed Turkey
- Stuffed roast lamb
- Al Rayan Pizza



#### Neck Meat

- Upper neck meat
- Lower neck meat

#### Shoulder and Intercoat meat

- Shoulder meat
- Intercoat
- Full lamb legs (with or without bones for stuffing and roasting)

#### Kidney meat

- Full kidneys for roasting
- Kidneys cut for roasting
- Whole kidneys from lambs for roasting

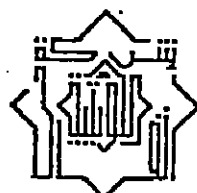
#### Lamb steak

- Full lamb arm
- With or without bones for stuffing and roasting



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# Egypt: country with a rich texture

THE lure of ancient Egypt is so great that travellers are seldom aware of the country's other attractions. But it is no exaggeration to say that if there were no Pyramids or Abu Simbel, no Valley of the Kings or Karnak Temple, Egypt would still be one of the most interesting countries in the world to visit.

Cairo has more magnificent Islamic treasures than any city in the world. They alone are well worth a visit.

Egypt's Christian history, which formed a bridge between the ancient world and the development of Western civilisation, is even less known and is almost completely overlooked by visitors today.

And none of these — ancient temples, old churches, magnificent mosques — acquaint the traveller with the Egypt of today: a nation of 46 million people that is growing and developing with a new sense of its destiny, a nation that has changed more in the last thirty years than it has in the past thirty centuries.

Yet, Egypt has not changed at all.

Egypt is the cradle of history and human culture. Few countries in the world can trace their beginnings to so remote a time as the civilisation which developed along the banks of the Nile, the river which creates Egypt and makes it the most fertile country in North Africa.

It was the Nile that molded the character of the people, stimulating the ancient Egyptians to great physical and intellectual feats far in advance of their contemporaries. It was the bountiful Nile that made them the most prosperous, the most famous and the most civilised among the nations of antiquity.

Now, as then, Egypt without the Nile would not exist.

Egypt's location has made it unique in another way too. Situated as it is in the northeast corner of Africa, throughout history Egypt has been a bridge between Asia and Europe, Africa and Asia; a bridge over which have passed armies, commerce, people and ideas. It is no less true now than it was 4,000 years ago.

What a visitor will discover on a visit to Egypt is a country with a rich texture in which the constant flow of the Nile, intermingled with the ancient and modern, creates a tapestry that is Egypt.

## Planning your trip

When to go: Egypt is a year-round travel destination, but October through May is the ideal time to visit. Winter is considered the high season, especially at Luxor and Aswan in Upper Egypt which has been a popular winter resort for Europeans since Edwardian aristocrats made it fashionable.

The year-round climate in Cairo is very dry. In the winter months it is warm and comfortable by day but at night it can be cool enough for a light-

weight coat. April tends to be a month of unpredictable weather and can still be cool and windy. You may encounter the Khamseen (sirocco) during the spring.

From June through September, Cairo is hot and Upper Egypt is very hot. However, leading hotels in Cairo, Luxor, and Aswan are air-conditioned, and if one is careful to sightsee in the early morning or late afternoon, it is not unbearable.

**Packaged Tours:** Many tour operators offer packaged tours to Egypt which for one price include transportation, hotels, sightseeing and most meals. Such inclusive packages are the most economical and convenient way to visit Egypt and are strongly recommended, particularly for first-time visitors.

A large number of packages combine Egypt with several other Mediterranean or Middle Eastern destinations. Multi-stop packages are enticing, but are not recommended. On such a tour, you will see the Pyramids and Sphinx, visit the Egyptian Museum and the old bazaars of Cairo — but you will not see Egypt. There is too much to enjoy in Egypt to combine it with a hurried trip through four or five countries in two or three weeks. Of necessity, the emphasis of any Middle East tour is on history, monuments and antiquities, and even the most avid history buff or amateur archaeologist may tire of too many museums and temples in a day. Moreover, if you combine too many countries on one tour the impressions run together. Egypt alone is more than worth a visit.

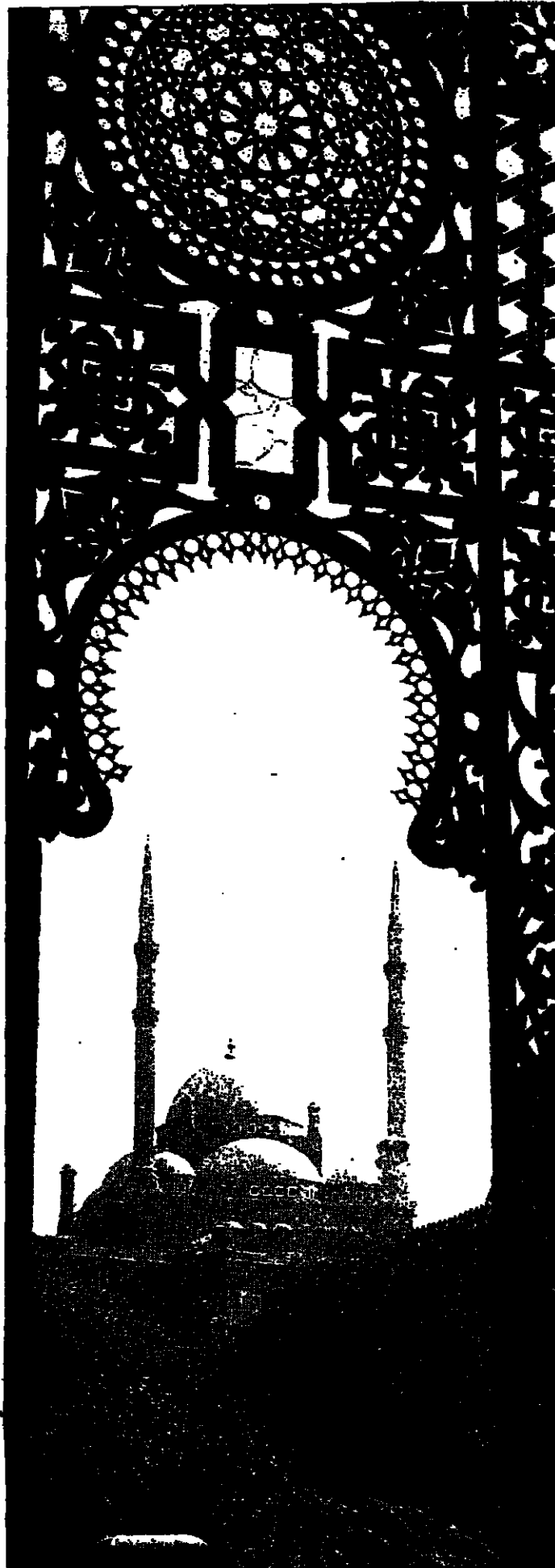
**Passports and Visas:** All visitors to Egypt must hold a valid passport or documents in lieu of passport. Egyptian consulates abroad are authorised to issue entry visas for tourists valid for 30 days and renewable for six months.

## Currency

The unit of currency is the Egyptian pound (L.E.). It is divided into 100 piasters. Each piaster is subdivided into 10 milliemes. Pounds can be written in the following way: L.E. 1 or L.E. 1.000 or 100 pt. (i.e. one hundred piasters). (K.D. 1 equals L.E. 8 (approx.))

**Exchange rates and facilities:** Visitors to Egypt are obliged to exchange currency at authorised exchanges only, found in all major hotels and banks. At Cairo airport, exchange facilities are available 24 hours daily; at ports, the bank opens upon arrival of ships.

In an effort to wipe out the black market, the government in May 1987 devalued the Egyptian pound by 37 per cent. It is the first stage of a long-range programme to create an open market for currency exchange. Tourists and certain other commercial sectors benefit from the new rate, which is now set at L.E. 1 = U.S. \$2.15 or U.S. \$1 = 46 piasters. In settling hotel bills, you may be asked to show evidence of foreign currency being exchanged at authorised banks. You



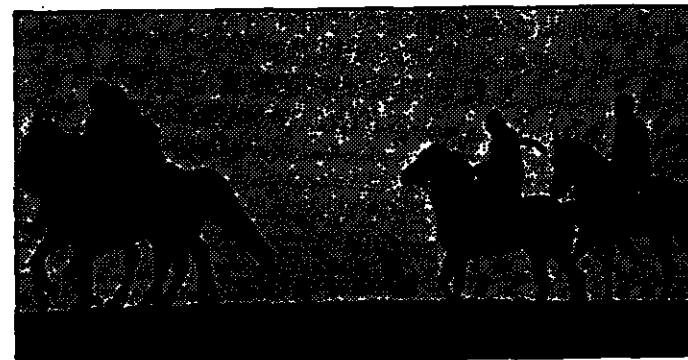
The citadel of Salaheddin Al Ayoubi was built in 1183 and is reminiscent of medieval fortresses.

may also settle your bill with a major credit card.

Visitors who arrive in Egypt and are not members of an organised tour and those whose stay will exceed 48 hours must exchange \$150 upon arrival at the airport or port.

Despite these efforts, however, it is not clear if the government's actions will

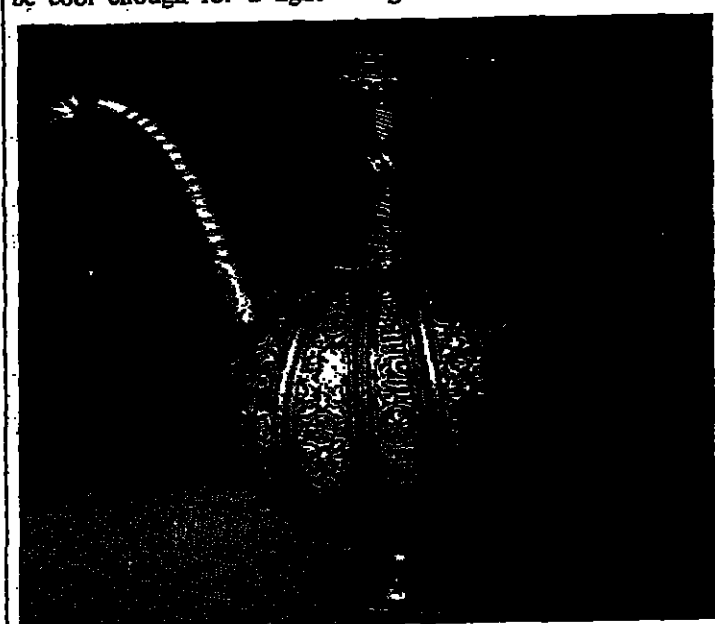
eliminate the black market. Do not be surprised if you are approached outside your hotel or other tourist locations with offers of an even better rate of exchange. The practice is so widespread and the savings so great that most tourists take advantage of it. But when they do, they run the risk of breaking currency laws.



Horse-riding in the desert.



The ruins at Luxor.



A jug of silver-inlaid copper.



The temple at Abu Simbel.

# Taking a cruise into history

A VOYAGE up the Nile by steamer is one of the most delightful trips in Egypt, and now with 75 boats — a seven-fold increase in the past decade — supply has matched demand. Most of the new vessels are in the four-and-five-star categories and offer three- to five-night cruises between Luxor and Aswan, plus Abydos and Denderah; or seven- and 11-night excursions that travel to Middle Egypt or sail between Cairo and Luxor/Aswan.

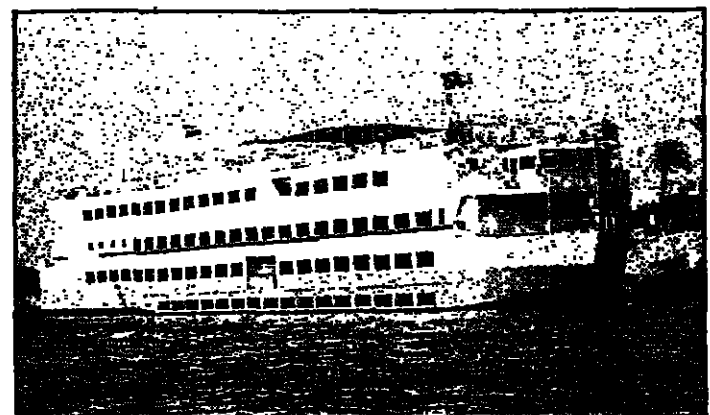
Prices start at \$45 per person per day for four-star ships; \$90 per person per day for five-star, during the high season months of October through April; and \$35 for four-star and \$65 for five-star from May to September. However, prices vary greatly and are currently being discounted as much as 50 per cent because of the oversupply. It pays to shop around. Generally, prices include all meals and sightseeing in the company of a trained guide or Egyptologist.

A cruise on the Nile differs from ocean cruising in several ways. Nile steamers, compared to ocean-going cruise ships, are small and cozy like a yacht and have informal and comfortable atmospheres. Some ships accommodate as few as 20 passengers, while the largest take up to 152 people.

Staterooms, slightly smaller than those of standard cruise ships, are comparable in size to cabins on ships that sail the Greek islands. They are well-appointed and comfortable. Most are fitted with twin lower beds; some have wall pull-down bunks for a third person, dressing table or nightstand, closet, and private bath with shower. Ships with suites often have full bath with tub. Four and five-star ships are fully air-conditioned.

Small ship size limits the recreational and entertainment facilities, but these are not important considerations on a Nile cruise where the attractions are the antiquities and the scenic countryside. On the other hand, ships holding 80 or more passengers have lounges for reading and relaxing, bar, sundeck, swimming pool, pleasant dining room with full

Egypt without the River Nile seems inconceivable. And one of the most delightful trips you can take in Egypt is a cruise down this ancient river and appreciate why the country is known as the gift of the Nile.



Nile steamers compared to ocean-going ships, are small and cozy and have informal and comfortable atmospheres.



Cruise passengers pass ancient monuments along the river banks.

table service and evening entertainment. Laundry services and hair saloon are also available.

Nile cruises begin in one of three places — Cairo, Luxor, or Aswan. More and more companies are offering long cruises throughout the year because they are increasingly popular and because the new ships are air-conditioned.

Passengers who begin their cruise in Upper Egypt usually travel to Luxor or Aswan by plane or train. In Luxor, a town next to the ancient site of Thebes, the ships dock on the east bank of the river near the Etap and Winter Palace hotels, within walking distance of

Luxor Temple and the Luxor Museum, and a short carriage ride from Karnak Temple, the most colossal ancient monument in the world.

Sightseeing includes a full day on the West Bank of the Nile, in the Valley of the Kings, where the tombs of Tutankhamun and other pharaohs were found; the Valley of the Queens; the Tombs of the Nobles, which contain some of the most important art of ancient Egypt; and other great temples and monuments.

From Luxor, many cruises sail downstream (north) to visit the Temples of Abydos and Denderah; others take in only

the sites between Luxor and Aswan. Abydos is one of the oldest sites of worship in the world and, because of its art, is considered the most important temple in Egypt. Tours beyond Abydos are available on longer cruises which stop at Tel Al Amarna, the capital of Pharaoh Akhenaten and his beautiful wife, Nefertiti; at Minya, the largest town of central Egypt; and at Beni Hassan, site of 12th century tombs — unusual tomb drawings show ancient Egyptians practicing judo and playing ball games that appear to be similar to those we play today.

From Luxor, ships also sail upstream (south) to Aswan, and stop for sightseeing at Esna, Edfu, and Kom Ombo — all sites of temples dating from the Ptolemaic and Greek periods. If the cruise begins in Aswan, the same itinerary is followed in reverse order, sailing downstream to Luxor.

Aswan was the capital of Nubia and an important trading place in ancient times. Today, it is primarily a winter resort and the administrative centre for the High Dam and the surrounding region. Aswan is dotted with antiquities, most importantly the Temple of Philae, which is located on an island in the middle of the river.

Egypt without the Nile River seems inconceivable. One's first view of the river snaking its way through the desert is a dramatic illustration of its importance throughout Egypt's history. Beyond the ribbon of green — the land irrigated by the Nile — the desert begins and stretches endlessly into the horizon on both sides.

The Nile flows so gently that ships glide almost imperceptibly. The banks of the river are never more than a short distance away, and passengers can enjoy a close view of rural life in Upper Egypt. Life on the land bridges centuries. Cruise passengers see scenes along the river banks and in the green fields that replicate ancient drawings on the walls of the temples and tombs. The sense of endless time and tranquility is almost overwhelming, particularly in contrast to the roar and clamour of Cairo.

# Islamic monuments in Egypt

VISITORS to Egypt find it remarkable that the story of a civilisation more than 50 centuries old could be so eloquently told by the variety of monuments which stand throughout the land.

Born on the banks of the Nile as early as the third millennium B.C., Egyptian civilisation developed to achieve unprecedented peaks in architecture, sculpture and painting.

True, its development was interrupted for brief periods during the Persian, Greek and Roman invasions, but the advent of Islam early in the seventh century A.D. ushered in a new era and Al Fustat, the first Islamic capital of Egypt (founded by Amir Ibn Al Aas in 641 A.D.) marked a definite turning point.

Islamic intellectual revival, particularly in the natural sciences and philosophy, was still developed under the various dynasties that ruled Islamic Egypt — the Omayyads, the Toulounids, the Fatimids, the Ayyoubids, the Mamelukes, and, finally, the Ottomans.

## The Islamic monuments in Cairo

### Amr Ibn Al Aas Mosque

This was built in 642 A.D. (21AH) to the north of the Babylon fortress, and is, therefore, the first mosque to be built in Egypt. It is simple in design; its original pillars were made of palm tree trunks and the roof of palm tree leaves. Improvements were introduced over the years, as well as accretions of various kinds.

Today the mosque consists of a vast open courtyard surrounded by four loggias, the largest being the one containing the prayer niche, facing Mecca. It has marble columns of different styles and some of its walls are panelled with wood carvings depicting Byzantine floral designs (mainly grapevines).

### Ibn Touloun Mosque

This was built during the reign of El Emir Ahmed Ibn Touloun in 879 A.D. (265 AH) and is one of the largest and oldest in Egypt. It still retains its original architectural character. Its design is simple, consisting of an open courtyard with an ablution facility in the middle surrounded by four loggias, the biggest being the one



The mosque of Qalawoon

containing the prayer niche.

The southern, western and northern parts have been enlarged and surrounded by high walls. Red bricks have been used throughout in the same style as the Samarra Mosque in Iraq. The pointed arches of the loggias rest on round bases, and are all decorated, from top to bottom, with floral and geometrical designs. Arch-shaped apertures in the bases help to lighten the load.

The walls of the mosque are decorated by 128 latticed windows of various types. The niche itself is covered with marble and gold mosaic and surrounded by four pillars of marble with floral-shaped capitals. The pulpit is made of wood and dates back to Mameluke times. It is a masterpiece of fine Islamic art and its inlays are the most beautiful in the history of Islamic art.

The present minaret of this mosque was built in 1926 A.D. (696 AH) by Sultan Al Mansour in place of the original one which had fallen into ruin. This is built of stone and has a winding external staircase and a square base, more or less like the old one. The horseshoe arches at the base suggest Andalusian rather than contemporary influences. A board showing the history of the mosque attracts the attention of visitors, apart from the Fatimid prayer niches in the bases of some of the columns in

the central loggia overlooking the court.

**The hospital, school and dome of Qalawoon (1285 A.D. — 684 AH)**

This is a superb amalgam of monuments, in Al Mu'izz Lidin Allah street, at the northern end of the goldsmiths' market. Built by Sultan Al Mansour Qalawoon, it comprises a hospital, a mosque (including a school) and a magnificent dome standing over his tomb. Aesthetically, this cluster of buildings is very rich and inspiring.

The dome itself is a rare masterpiece of Islamic art: its outer surface is covered with marble inlaid with mother of pearl, and its inside is covered with golden inscriptions. Its high prayer niche is unparalleled in its exquisite marble decorations. From top to bottom the dome is covered with bright-coloured decorations and gilt. On the northern side of the dome stands an enormous minaret which was restored by the Sultan's son Al Nasser Mohamed in 1303 A.D.

**Al Hakem Mosque (1012 A.D. — 430 AH)**

This is situated at the end of Al Mu'izz Lidin Allah Street. Though work started on it in the days of Al Aziz, the second Fatimid Caliph of Egypt, in 990 A.D., it was destined to bear the name of a later Caliph — Al Hakem Bi' Amr Allah. The

mosque, which is an architectural masterpiece by any standard, was originally situated just outside the old city walls of Cairo, that is, facing the Bab Al Futhuh city gates, but, as the city expanded in the days of Badr Al Jamal, the Fatimid Prime Minister, new city walls were built to enclose the mosque.

After the Cairo earthquake of 1302 A.D., a Mameluke Emir by the name of Baybars Al Jankiez ordered major repair and reconstruction work on the mosque, and arranged for "Islamic sciences" to be taught in it.

**Al Aqmar Mosque (1125 A.D. — 519 AH)**

This is situated also in Al Mu'izz Lidin Allah street, and was built on orders of Caliph Al Aamer Bi' Ahkam Allah. It is one of the rare Fatimid monuments which are relatively well preserved. Its face is decorated with Kufic inscriptions.

**Al Salih Tala'e Mosque (1160 A.D. — 555 AH)**

Standing close to Bab Zuweila, at the crossing of Ahmed Maher and Al Suroujyyah streets, this is one of the most beautiful Fatimid monuments in Cairo. A Mameluke ruler of Egypt, Bugtumur, introduced certain architectural changes, including a rare wooden pulpit, which have enhanced its beauty.



## Dear Junior Readers,

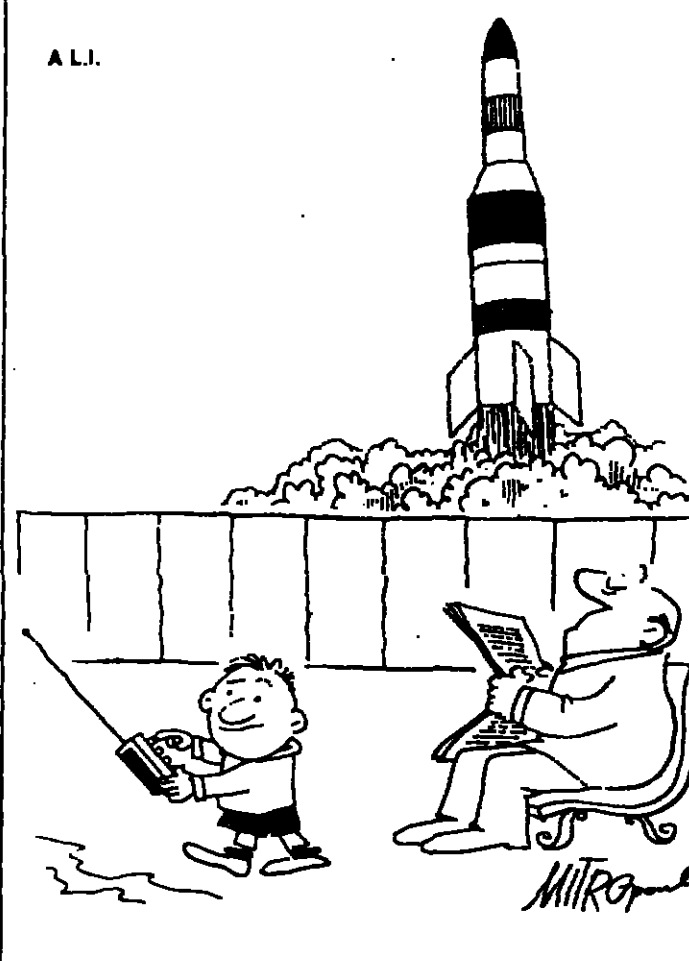
As you are probably aware, it is traffic week in Kuwait.

Traffic rules apply to all of us whether we drive or not, and you can help avoid traffic accidents by crossing the road properly. Remember the golden rule. Look left, look right and only when you are absolutely sure it's safe, make the crossing.

If you are in doubt, then it's probably better to wait until the car passes, even if your companion is beckoning from the other side of the road urging haste. Have a good week-end.

Aunt Barbara

A.L.I.



NEAR the town of Shrewsbury in England, there is a great hill called the Wrekin. Some people tell this story of how it came to be there.

THERE was once a giant who was fierce, and strong, and huge.

No one would have thought much about him — except that he was not only fierce, and strong and huge.

He was also MEAN. Every morning when the giant woke up, he stretched and yawned and roared. And after he had his breakfast (I wouldn't dare tell you what he had), he said to himself:

"What mean, horrid, wicked thing can I do today?"

He usually thought of something. Sometimes he trampled all the fields flat and spoiled the farmers' crops. Sometimes he blew out all the cooking-fires at once. Then the farmers' wives had to start them all over again. Sometimes he stole all the bells from all the church steeples for miles around. Then nobody woke up on time or knew when to go to church.

Sometimes he frightened all the animals out of the forest, and all the hunters came home empty-handed, and there was nothing to eat but potatoes and cabbage soup.

One morning, however, the giant woke up with a terrible stomach-ache. It must have been his dinner. (I wouldn't dare tell you who his dinner was.) And he felt so mean that he decided to do something. He decided to do some-

## The giant and the cobbler

thing much worse than anything he had ever done before.

He decided to take a great shovelful of earth and dump it into the river and make a flood that would drown the town of Shrewsbury and everybody in it.

So he took his giant shovel and he dug a giant shovelful of earth — such a giant shovelful of earth that even he could hardly carry it. And he started on the road to Shrewsbury.

When the townspeople heard that the giant was coming, they were terrified. They all ran to hide in their cellars — all but a cobbler who happened to be in Shrewsbury at the time. He lived in the

next town, but did all the shoe repairing for Shrewsbury too. This cobbler was skinny, and weak and cowardly.

And he would have been hiding in a cellar like everyone else — except that he was not only skinny, and weak and cowardly. He was also very hungry. And he couldn't help thinking of the fine little supper his pretty little wife was preparing for him in his nice little house in the next town.

So he picked up the bag full of broken-down, worn-out shoes the people in Shrewsbury had given him to repair. And he threw the bag over his shoulder and started for home.

"No, no, you must hide!" the people cried to him from their cellar doors.

"I'll hide when I get home," said the cobbler. "Besides, why would a giant hurt a poor cobbler like me?"

"And why do you think we don't have a cobbler of our own?" the people cried.

But the cobbler wouldn't listen to them. Off he went, down the road, with his big bag full of shoes.

He walked and walked, thinking of his pretty little wife in his warm little house cooking his delicious little supper. He was still thinking of these things and licking his lips when suddenly he stopped.



Something was in his way. A great, enormous shoe stood in the road.

"Good heavens," said the cobbler to himself, "I hope I don't ever have to repair a shoe as big as that!"

And he looked up, and up, and up, and he began to tremble with fright. For in the shoe was a foot. And above the foot was a leg. And on top of that was a great, towering giant carrying a huge shovelful of earth.

"Am I on the right road to Shrewsbury?" roared the giant. "Answer me, you skinny little worm of a man."

The poor cobbler shook in his boots, but he was able to squeak out, "Oh, are you going all the way to Shrewsbury?"

"Yes, I am going all the way to Shrewsbury," roared the giant. "And when I get there, I am going to dam up the river and drown the whole town."

The cobbler thought of all his nice customers being drowned while hiding in their cellars. It was a terrible thought. Something had to be done.

He looked at the giant. The giant was panting and puffing as he stood there holding the heavy shovelful of earth.

"You mean you're planning to carry that all the way to Shrewsbury?" the cobbler asked.

"What do you mean all the way?" growled the giant. "Why do you keep saying all the way? If this is the right road to Shrewsbury, I must be almost there!"

The cobbler sighed and put his bag down. "But haven't you heard?" he said. "They moved it."

"Moved what?" roared the giant.

"Moved Shrewsbury," said the cobbler.

"Where to?" asked the giant.

"Well, just look in here," said the cobbler, opening his bag, "and tell me what you see."

The giant bent over and peered in the bag.

"Why, just a lot of worn-out shoes and boots," he said.

"Exactly," said the cobbler. "And now do you see why you'll never get to Shrewsbury with that great heavy shovelful of earth?"

"No, I don't see," said the giant. "Why?"

The cobbler shut his bag tight and threw it over his shoulder with a sigh. "Because those are all the shoes I've worn out so far, just since leaving Shrewsbury," he said. "And I'm going to be late for supper, besides!"

And the cobbler, who was skinny, and weak, and cowardly, and hungry, but also rather clever, went on his way down the road to his pretty little wife who had a mouth-watering dinner all ready for him.

As for the giant, he simply gave up. He threw down his shovelful of earth — and what a big hill it made! — and then he sat down and wept, giving up forever the whole idea of going to Shrewsbury, for he was not only fierce, and strong, and huge, and mean — he was also STUPID.

And a good thing, too.

## Easter cake

Ingredients

500g (1 lb 4oz) mixed dried fruit

200 g (8 oz) plain flour

Pinch of salt

Level teaspoonful cinnamon

Level teaspoonful ground nutmeg

150g (5 oz) margarine

150g (5 oz) brown sugar

3 eggs

1 tablespoonful apricot jam

400g (1 lb) almond paste

(see page 55)

Equipment

Mixing bowl

Wooden spoon

Rolling pin

18 cm (7 in) deep cake tin

Piece of wide ribbon

Sieve

Small basin

Fork

1. Grease and line a deep 18

cm (7 in) cake tin (see page 56).

2. Put oven on at Gas Mark 3 (electricity 325°F/160°C).

3. Divide the almond paste into three, making one piece slightly smaller than the two.

4. Cream margarine and sugar well together and gradually add the eggs (as for creamed mixture page 30). Add the dried fruit, and finally sift in the flour and spice.

5. Roll out one third of the almond paste to roughly the shape of the tin. Place half of the cake mixture into the tin, put in the almond paste and cover with the remaining mixture.

6. Bake for 2-1/2 hours until all sound of bubbling has stopped. (Because of the

layer of almond paste, it is not possible to test with a skewer). Leave to cool in the tin.

7. With the second large piece of almond paste, roll out to the shape of the cake top and while still in the tin, brush the cake top with apricot jam and press the almond paste in place.

8. Remove cake from tin.

9. Out of the smallest piece of almond paste, shape 11 eggs. Decorate top with a fork pressed down round the edge to make a pattern.

Brush the almond paste with jam and put eggs around edge.

10. Place under the grill until evenly brown.

11. Tie a ribbon round the cake and serve.

THE origin of this month's name is obscure. Some scholars believe the Latin Aprilis is derived from the name of the Greek goddess of love Aphrodite, whose Roman festival occurred on April 1. On the other hand April is a burgeoning month, associated with birth, freshness and the beginning of spring. It has therefore been suggested that its name may come from the Latin aperire, to open. If so, it is the only month named according to its seasonal significance, and it is interesting to note that its Anglo-Saxon name was Eostre or Eastrmonath.

**Born to fame**

This has been a good month for people who imposed their opinions on others — the dictators' month, it might be said. St Louis of France (the first crusader), Oliver Cromwell, Vladimir Lenin, Adolf Hitler, Hirohito (Emperor of Japan), Alexander II (Emperor of all the Russias), Antonio Salazar of Portugal, and even Great Dictator Charlie Chaplin, were all born in April.

Giving the month an artistic flavour are Leonardo da Vinci, Hans Christian Andersen, William Wordsworth, Sergei Rachmaninov and Gaetano Bonizetti.

**Fests and festivals**

The Hindu New Year New Baisakhi can also be celebrated in April with the giving of presents, feasting, praying and bathing in the sacred waters of the Ganges.

April is often the month when the birth, enlightenment and death of the Buddha (Gautama Siddhartha 2563-483 BC) are celebrated simultaneously in the festival of Vesak.

**Worst earthquake**

THE worst earthquake to hit a city in modern times was the one that virtually destroyed San Francisco on April 18, 1906. The shockwaves were felt 600 miles away. Buildings collapsed, water mains burst and fires broke out. There was panic in the streets. Twenty-three babies were born on the lawns of Golden Gate Park. Four out of every five of the city's buildings were destroyed.

**The magnificence of modern San Francisco rose from the ashes. The new buildings are earthquake proof.**

**Search for new land**

This word search features famous explorers from the past.

Amundsen

Baffin

Behring

Byrd

Cabot

Champlain

Charcot

Columbus

Cook

Cortes

Da Gama

Diaz

Drake

Franklin

Fraser

Grenville

Hawkins

Hillary

Hudson

Humboldt

Lawrence

Mackenzie

Magellan

McGovern

Park

Peary

Polo

Raleigh

Scott

Shackleton

Stanley

Tasman

Vancouver

Velasquez

Vespucci

W

X

Y

Z

A

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# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Bonds and treasury bills will cover deficit: Khorafi

LONDON, March 30, (Kuna): Kuwait Finance Minister Jaseem Al Khorafi said in a press statement here today that the present government bonds and treasury bills are enough to cover the expected deficit in the state's budget for the fiscal year 1988/89.

He added in an interview with the London-based Arab magazine Al Majalla, that the duration of these bonds and bills is 10 years, expressing hope that "this liquidity would be enough. Otherwise a new law should be issued for other years."

### Revenues

On the size of the expected deficit in the new budget, the Kuwait official explained that in the previous budget the deficit was KD 1.4 billion, noting that the country's revenues are expected to be the same as last year's.

On the next five-year plan, Khorafi said that we should benefit from our experience in the previous plan and work is currently going on to evaluate the current plan.

He noted in that regard that the new plan should be more realistic in order to make it

implementation possible.

Commenting on the effect of the cut down in oil prices on Kuwait's revenues, the finance minister said that this has effected the state's revenues, therefore the government re-evaluated its expenditures.

He added that the government's expenditure was high during the rise of oil prices "but we should seek expenditure rationalisation to go in co-harmony with our (financial) capabilities."

Regarding the current economic situation in Kuwait, Khorafi said that the situation is stable and many negative effects, left over by the financial crisis in Kuwait, have been solved.

### Affected

On the effects of the Iraq-Iran war on Kuwait's economy, the Kuwait official said that "trade transit" is the most economical sector that was affected by the Iraq-Iran war.

On the unified economic agreement between the Gulf Cooperation Council states, Khorafi said the delay in applying this agreement was due to different capabilities of each member country, stressing that sacrifices are needed to achieve the unified Gulf market.

## UAE will have to issue bonds: Al Hamar

ABU DHABI, March 30, (Reuters): The UAE must issue bonds to finance the nation's persistent budget deficit and tackle the problem caused by falling oil prices, Central Bank governor Abdul Malik Al Hamar said.

He warned that the recent decline on the world oil market would raise the deficit on this year's combined federal and local budget for the confederation of seven emirates.

Al Hamar told Reuters in an interview: "Bonds have become indispensable to tackle the (budget) problem."

The UAE said early this month it would issue bonds worth between two billion and three billion dirhams (\$540 to \$800 million), but has not said when they will be floated.

The Central Bank governor was speaking late last afternoon before news broke that Saudi Arabia is postponing its planned issue of government bonds. Bankers in the kingdom said that decision appeared to have been prompted partially by objections from the country's conservative religious bodies.

In the UAE, sharp spending cuts and the introduction of import taxes and services fees have failed to eliminate budget

deficits in the face of declining oil prices.

Al Hamar said: "Issuing of medium and long-term bonds would not only radically cut the deficit but also would attract part of our overseas investment and help remove constraints on government plans due to unstable oil prices."

### Halved

Oil provides more than 80 per cent of the UAE's revenues and declining prices and production have almost halved income from 60 billion dirhams (\$16.3 billion) in 1985 to 33 billion dirhams (\$9.0 billion) in 1987.

Despite austerity measures, the federal budget deficit has persisted and more than doubled in 1987 to 2.75 billion dirhams (\$750 million) from that of the previous year.

The federal budget is financed from half the income of each of the seven emirates making up the UAE — Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ras Al Khaimah, Ajman, Umm Al Qaiwain, and Fujairah.

According to Al Hamar, the deficit for the combined budget, taking in the federal and individual emirate levels, fell to 10.9 billion dirhams (\$3.0 billion) in 1987 from 13.9 billion dirhams (\$3.8 billion) in 1986.

"But given weak oil prices in the first quarter of this year and the difficulty of making further spending cuts, I expect the combined deficit to rise to between 13 billion and 14 billion dirhams (\$3.5 billion to 3.7 billion)," he said.

Kuwait, Oman and Bahrain have issued bonds or treasury bills and Saudi Arabia had been expected to follow suit after King Fahd announced at the end of last year that bonds would be used to help finance the kingdom's 1988 budget deficit.

Meanwhile, UAE English dailies in their editorials welcomed the "upward trend" in the UAE economy showing the country had overcome the oil slump in 1986.

### Rationalise

The Dubai-based dailies were commenting on a recent statement by Minister of Planning Sheikh Humaid Bin Ahmed Al Mulla indicating an improvement in the UAE's economic indicators such as the national income and Gross Domestic Product.

The Gulf News said "the national economy has clearly left behind the troubles caused by the record slump in oil prices in 1986 thanks to the relative stability in

the oil markets from the beginning of last year."

The paper noted since oil prices started declining in 1982, "the UAE has been taking care to rationalise spending and to postpone more ambitious development project."

This, it pointed out "has prepared the economy for a new growth phase."

The paper expressed satisfaction with the current state of the economy describing it as a "healthy one."

It said the economy "has coped remarkably well during successive years of low oil prices and learnt valuable lessons on the need to keep overheads down and diversify into non-oil ventures."

Another daily, the Khaleej Times, said the minister's statement "confirms recent signs that the national economy is on the upswing gradually recovering from the downturn of the mid-80s."

However, it said "much depends on market forces and Opec's ability to keep them in check."

"There is no room for complacency with regard to rationalisation policies undertaken in the wake of the oil slump and general stagnation" it said.

## World Business Summary

### IBM opposed to ending sales to S. Africa unit

NEW YORK, March 30, (Reuters): International Business Machines Corp., which sold off its South African subsidiary last year, said yesterday it opposed a shareholder proposal that it cease sales to the former unit, now owned by local employees. As part of the sale of Information Services Management (Pty) Ltd, one of a series of divestitures by US corporations reacting to protests against South Africa's racial policies, IBM granted the firm exclusive rights to sell IBM gear and services in South Africa. IBM said in a proxy statement to shareholders that several church groups and individual stockholders had proposed that the world's biggest computer maker end sales to ISM. The proposal, to be voted on by shareholders at IBM's annual meeting on April 25, argues that IBM's products help perpetuate apartheid, South Africa's policy of racial separation. "While not deliberately unfair, IBM's sales patterns fit and maintain the apartheid model of inequality and white supremacy," the shareholder proposal says. It says ISM sales are about \$250 million a year. IBM defended its relationship with ISM, arguing that ISM is committed to fair employment practices. About a quarter of ISM's workforce is non-white, IBM said. IBM said it would have been an "empty gesture" to sell the South African unit but deny the new owners the right to sell IBM products. Last October ISM formed a joint venture with Barlow-Rand, a South African concern.

### South Korea's current account surplus doubles

SEOUL, March 30, (AP): Due to strong exports, South Korea's current account surplus in February doubled to \$956 million from last year's \$461 million, the Bank of Korea reported today. The bank reported the surplus in the first two months of this year as \$1.74 billion, up from \$1.23 billion in the same period last year. Bank officials said that with present trends, the surplus is certain to exceed the government's year-end projection of \$7 billion. An International Monetary Fund mission which was here last week predicted that the surplus could reach \$11 billion. The central bank said the trade surplus in February rose to \$742 million, up 160 per cent from 285 million a year earlier. The trade surplus in January-February widened to \$1.42 billion from \$930 million a year ago. Merchandise exports in the first two months rose to \$8.12 billion from \$5.78 billion one year ago, while imports increased from \$4.85 billion to \$6.7 billion, bank officials said.

Surplus in the invisible sector, which includes financial services, plunged in February to \$62 million from \$139 million a year ago, due mainly to decline in receipts from overseas construction, reducing the surplus in the first two months from \$162 million to \$46 million.

### Bangladesh expects food sufficiency in two years

DHAKA, March 30, (Reuters): Bangladesh's food minister said today the overcrowded south Asian country expected to become self-sufficient in foodgrains just in two years.

Bangladesh has made spectacular progress in agriculture, and it is hoped the country would produce enough food for its people by 1990," Sardar Anwar Hossain told a news conference.

He said Bangladesh would strive to raise annual food production to 20 million tonnes by the end of the decade and efforts would also be made to minimise crop losses during harvesting, transportation and marketing. Hossain said food production during the 1987/88 fiscal year ending in June was expected to be more than 16 million tonnes, almost the same as last year's actual output.

The worst floods for 40 years hit much of Bangladesh between July and September last year, washing away 3.4 million tonnes of rice. Higher than average output had since produced more than two million tonnes of grains "that helped a substantial recovery," the minister said.

But Bangladesh would still need to import 3.1 million tonnes to meet requirements for its 107 million people and build emergency stocks, the minister said. More than two million tonnes would come as grants and the rest be purchased for cash or on deferred payments, he added.

### Lebanon secures agreement to delay some debt repayments

BEIRUT, March 30, (Reuters): Lebanon won agreement from France and two other foreign creditors to delay repayments on its foreign debt, the first official postponement by the war-torn nation, Central Bank sources said today. They said the French government, which lends to Lebanon under a financial protocol, the European Investment Bank and Abu Dhabi Investment Fund accepted a request made in late 1987 to postpone payments for a few months. The delay was sought as Lebanon's foreign reserves slumped to just \$334 million from \$461 million at the end of 1986 amid a crisis of confidence in the economy. The Central Bank sources said it was accepted "on a friendly basis" and had been sought partly because of bureaucratic difficulties in making payments caused by the division of Beirut into Christian and Muslim sectors in the 13-year civil war.

They would not say how much debt was involved, but said the delayed payments had now been made good or were about to be completed. Government sources said Lebanon's foreign debt, excluding military loans, now totalled \$215.6 million compared with 149.5 million at the end of last year. Some 20.4 million in principal and interest is due for repayment during 1988.

## Abu Dhabi and Pakistan agree to build refinery near Karachi

ABU DHABI, March 30, (Opecna): The government of Abu Dhabi and Pakistan have agreed to build an oil refinery near Karachi through the Pak-Arab Refinery Company (Parco), a joint venture set up in 1974.

Officials from both sides told a press conference in Abu Dhabi yesterday the refinery, with a projected capacity of 80,000 b/d, would be set up in Multan, some 800 kilometres north of Karachi. It would be the first to be built by the company.

The announcement was made by Youssef Al Noweis, director of the finance department at the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (Adnoc), after the meeting of the board of directors in Karachi.

He said details of the project, including its cost and crude oil supplies from Abu Dhabi, would be finalised after a joint study to be held later on the feasibility of the project.

On the performance of Parco, he said the company realised profits during the past few years. Parco was set up in 1974 as a joint venture held 40 per cent by Adnoc and 60 per cent by the Pakistani government for the production and transport of refined oil products in Pakistan.

Parco also said it would extend an existing Karachi-Multan pipeline by a further 400 km to reach the cities of Lahore and Faisalabad in Northern Pakistan.

Noweis also said the Arab-Pakistan Company for Fertilizers Production and Marketing also increased its profits over the past few years.

The company's draft budget for 1988-89 would be presented to the government of Pakistan for review prior to its endorsement in June.

Zahoor Ahmed Khan, chairman of the company's board of directors, told reporters that the board was currently conducting studies on modernising the 10-year old fertilizer company.

## Indonesia scraps controversial contract team

JAKARTA, March 30, (Reuters): The Indonesian government announced today it was scrapping a controversial team empowered to award all government purchase contracts over \$300,000.

Newly appointed coordinating Minister for Economy, Finance and Industry Radis Prawiro told a news conference the move was in line with planned economic reforms.

He said government departments and agencies would be entrusted to make their own purchases in the future "because they now have the capability to handle that task."

"The president's decree will simplify the process of procuring goods for government projects. But supervision will still be carried out by the state auditing body," he said.

The change is expected to be the first of a series of reforms by the cabinet announced by President Suharto earlier this month. Half of the cabinet is new.

The government is pledged to maintain the pace of economic reform begun after the oil price crash in 1986, designed to make Indonesia's protected economy more competitive and less reliant on oil exports.

## US to seek GATT ruling on Japanese restrictions

GENEVA, March 30, (Reuters): The United States will ask the world trade body GATT to decide if Japanese and South Korea import restrictions on farm products violate international trade rules, a GATT spokesman said yesterday.

The United States, running large trade deficits with both countries, has been campaigning against what it sees as unfair trade practices wherever it finds them.

When bilateral efforts fail, it has turned to the 96-nation General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

"Clearly the Americans think the negotiations are not bearing fruit," one diplomatic source told Reuters.

The GATT spokesman said the United States would formally ask for dispute panels at a specially convened meeting of the GATT council on April 8.

A dispute panel decides whether a GATT member is

violating rules, and makes recommendations which are usually adopted by the ruling GATT council.

The request regarding Japan could cover beef or citrus imports or both, the spokesman said.

A four-year bilateral accord on beef and citrus trade between Japan and the United States expires at the end of March. It set an import quota of 93,000 tonnes of beef, 91,000 tonnes of oranges and 8,500 tonnes of orange juice for 1987-88.

But the United States wants no more quotas at all. The Japanese Agriculture Ministry has set new quotas for April through September despite the lack of a bilateral agreement.

Following a US complaint, the GATT council has already found Japan to be violating GATT rules by restricting other farm products, and is awaiting word from Japan on how it intends to comply.

## Measures to boost exports

### India announces landmark trade policy

NEW DELHI, March 30, (Reuters): India unveiled today wide-ranging measures to raise exports and liberalise controls on imports of high technology and capital goods to boost the drought-hit economy.

Finance Minister Narain Dutt Tiwari told reporters India's second three-year import-export policy starting on April 1 "had been framed in the backdrop of our ultimate objective to wipe out the trade deficit in the foreseeable future."

India's trade deficit in the first 10 months of fiscal 1987/88 narrowed seven per cent to Rs 54.25 billion (\$4.1 billion) from last year, due largely to higher costs of oil imports, Tiwari said.

"Although this is welcome, the persistent trade deficits continue

to be a cause for concern," he said.

India's total 1986/87 trade deficit hit Rs 75.17 billion (\$5.8 billion), down from a high of Rs 87.63 billion (\$6.7 billion) in 1985/86.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi began reforms to modernise the country's agriculture-based economy when he took office in 1984.

Businessmen and economists said the pace of liberalisation slowed as Gandhi sought to counter criticism his policies primarily benefited the affluent.

Tiwari said "it is our earnest endeavour that the exporter should be enabled to devote his undivided attention to export promotion instead of spending his time and energy in obtaining

concessions and facilities from the government."

Tiwari added 745 more items, including capital goods and raw materials, to the open general licence scheme, under which export-oriented manufacturers can import without applying for licences. There are now about 2,500 items under the scheme.

He said exporters badly needed to import capital goods, even if these were available in the domestic market, because lower international prices would help Indian firms remain viable in the world market.

Under the plan, Indian firms could import large computers with disk storage capacity of at least 1,000 megabytes. Tiwari said 26 bulk purchase

items currently imported by the public sector would be de-canalisied to the private sector.

He also relaxed controls to increase incentives to local industries which sell most of their products to export-oriented firms, saying there would be great foreign exchange savings if these firms become internationally competitive.

### Slowing

Economists forecast India's economic growth slowing to about 1.5 per cent in 1987/88 from 4.1 per cent last year due to last summer's severe drought.

But Tiwari, while relaxing controls on imports, also cautioned industry "to exercise maximum restraint in imports, keeping in view the strains on the balance of payments."

## US closes tax loophole at jet speed

WASHINGTON, March 30, (Reuters): The government has closed a tax loophole that Continental Airlines says was "big enough to fly a 747 through."

The US tax deadline is April 15 and Continental had run newspaper advertisements saying: "If you're not looking forward to paying taxes, we suggest you leave the country."

### Extension

Traditionally, Americans who are outside the country on April 15 get a two-month extension in paying their taxes.

But on Monday the tax-collecting internal revenue service said to qualify for the extension taxpayers must show they were out of the country at least 14 consecutive days, including April 15.

## Japan to open construction projects to American firms

WASHINGTON, March 30, (Reuters): Japan has agreed to open its domestic construction projects to US firms, staving off possible American trade sanctions, US Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter said yesterday.

The agreement was reached after a week of intensive negotiations.

No details of the agreement were announced but deputy trade representative Michael Smith said the pact would clear the way for American firms to bid and win contracts on a wide range of central and local government projects in Japan.

Yeutter told reporters before meeting congressmen working on an omnibus trade bill that the accord would benefit US firms which previously had not been allowed to participate in Japanese construction projects.

"We hope the US construction companies take advantage of the new agreement," he said.

### Delayed

The pact was announced at a news conference which was delayed for 30 minutes while Japanese negotiators questioned some of the details of the agreement.

"We've hit a few snags," said Yeutter as Japanese officials huddled over the agreement. "It

might take another two years," he joked.

Nearly two years of negotiations were required to get Japan to open its closed construction market to foreign firms.

US construction firms did only minimal business in Japan last year, while Japanese firms did an estimated \$3 billion worth of construction business in the United States.

Smith said the agreement laid out a series of unspecified procedures which would enable US companies to participate in the growing number of public works projects planned in Japan over the coming years, including several large airports.

Meanwhile in Tokyo, an industry spokesman said today third countries will not automatically benefit from a Washington-Tokyo pact opening the Japanese construction industry to American companies.

"We expect demands from overseas for access to the Japanese market to rise," a spokesman for the Japan Federation of Construction Contractors told Reuters.

"But it is impossible to think they would automatically receive the same treatment (as the

United States)," he said.

A broader application of the agreement was not ruled out by government officials, who said it had not yet been decided whether measures agreed to in the US-Japan pact would apply to other countries.

"This was an agreement between the United States and Japan, but the measures can be applied to third countries as well on the basis of reciprocity," a construction ministry official said.

The European Economic Community, which recently won a ruling in a world trade body against an exclusive US-Japan semiconductor pact, is expected to react strongly if excluded from the construction agreement.

### Expressed

South Korean and Chinese construction firms have also expressed interest in the growing number of public and private construction projects planned in Japan, including several large airports.

The US-Japan agreement was reached yesterday just ahead of a March 31 deadline imposed by Washington, which was considering imposing curbs on selected Japanese exports if the talks had remained stalemate past that time.

## Reserves for debtor loans put UK bank in red

LONDON, March 30, (Reuters): Standard Chartered Plc, Britain's fifth biggest bank, said today that it lost money in 1987 because of the cost of setting up reserves to cover possible losses on loans to debtor countries.

Midland Bank and Lloyd Bank, Britain's third and fourth biggest banks, last month said similar provisions put them in the red for 1987.

Analysts say those were the first losses made by major British banks in this century.

Besides the provisions, Standard Chartered said that bad and doubtful loans in Canada and Malaysia as well as by its California and Arizona units — which it is selling off — hit its results.

The bank, which also sold off its remaining interests in South Africa last year, said it lost £274 million (\$510 million) before taxes in 1987. Its 1986 pre-tax profit was £254 million (\$472 million).

"1987 has turned out to be a year in which the group was beset by a series of difficult problems," said chairman Sir Peter Graham.

Standard Chartered made a charge of £234 million (\$435 million) for bad and doubtful debts in 1987, up 27 per cent from 1986.

"While a large part of this

heavy charge was undoubtedly due to economic reasons, management failure was also a significant factor," Graham said. "Remedial action has been taken." About 90 per cent of the total involved loans made in Malaysia and Canada and loans made by Union Bank of California and United Bank of Arizona.

Standard Chartered is selling Union Bank, California's fifth biggest, to a Bank of Tokyo affiliate for \$750 million, while the Arizona Bank is going to Citicorp for \$210 million.

It also sold its remaining 39 per cent interest in a South African bank last year.

### Lent

Standard Chartered said that, as of the end of 1987, it had lent a total of £2.47 billion (\$4.59 billion) to 32 countries designated as having problems paying off their debt.

But it set aside £519 million (\$965 million) last year in a reserve to cover possible losses on these loans. After counting the funds it set aside before 1987, the bank's provisions cover about 25 per cent of these loans.

The loans include £634 million (\$1.18 billion) in South Africa, £390 million (\$725 million) in Nigeria, £325 million (\$604 million) in Mexico and £311 million (\$578 million) in Brazil.

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6th	Inter-Con, Abu Dhabi
7th	Trade Centre, Dubai

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1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26



## International Bond Highlights

Rome — A spokesman for Italian State Bank Banca Nazionale del Lavoro confirmed reports from London bond market sources that the World Bank is issuing a 150 billion lire five-year Eurobond and said his bank was acting as lead manager. (RTTV 1456)

Paris — Interfinance Credit National NV, a unit of French state bank Credit National, is issuing a 500 mln French franc 9-1/8 pct Eurobond at 101-3/8 pct, lead manager Credit Commercial de France said. (RTTV 1205)

Bahrain — Saudi Arabia has not postponed plans to issue bonds to finance its 1988 budget deficit, an official source, quoted by the Saudi Press Agency (SPA), said. (RTZW 1439)

Zurich — Japan's Komatsu Zenoah Co is issuing 50 mln Swiss francs in convertible notes with an indicated 1-3/4 pct coupon and par pricing, lead manager Union Bank of Switzerland said. (RTYA 0942)

London — The Bank of England said it is to issue 400 mln stg of additional gilt stock. (RTTC 1442)

## Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 8-9/16 7/16	8-5/8 1/2	8-3/4 5/8
FFI 2-7/8 9/16	3-35/64	3-35/64
PAR 7-1/2 9/16	7-13/16 15/16	8-3/4 5/16
ZUR 1-7/8 3/8	1-1/4 1-1/2	1-1/2 1-3/4
BRX 5/70	6-00 1/8	6-1/8 1/4
ROM 10-1/8 10-5/8	10-3/8 10-7/8	10-3/4 11-1/4
AMS 3-1/2 3-3/4	3-7/8 4-0/0	4-0/0 4-1/16
TOK 3.5000 5625	3.8125 8750	3.8750 9375
ECU 6.125 6.250	6.18 6.31	6.43 6.56

## Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait, yesterday.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	5 1/4	5 3/4
3 months	5 1/6	5 9/16
6 months	5 1/6	5 9/16
1 year	5 1/6	5 9/16

## BOMBAY

	PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	63	64.50	65	MICO	500	500	497.50
ACC	135	136	135	GNFC	26.50	26.50	27	MUKAND	79.50	80	80.50
ASIA PAINT	140	140	134.25	GRASIM	85	85	86	NOCLT	432.50	432.50	435
BAJAJ AUTO	197.50	197.50	196.25	GSFC	90	89	83.50	ORKAY	18.50	18	17.75
BAR. RAYON	180	180	180	HIND LEVER	62.50	63	62.50	PEICO	27	26.50	27
BOM. DYING	120	122.50	120	HINDALCO	79	79	79	PFIZER	58	58	56
BR. BOND	81	81	82.50	HINDCOCA	75	75	76.25	PRE-AUTO	25	25	24.75
BSE INDEX	390	398.40	398.40	HINDMOTOR	17.25	17.50	17.25	RAYMOND	43	43	44
CENTURYSPG	805	802.50	807.50	IND ORG	16	15	15.25	RELIANCE	76	76	76
COLGATE	171.25	173.75	171	INDRAGON	49.50	50.50	49.50	SIEMENS	59	59	58
DEEPAKFERT	26	26	27	INDROL	146.25	146.25	143.75	SPIC	25.25	25	26
EI. HOTEL	42	44	45.50	ITC	33	33	33.50	STONILLS	215	210	212.50
ESKAYEF	160	162.50	160	JKSYNTH	55.60	55	55	TATA PUR	187.50	187.50	190
ESSAR	17	17	18	L AND T	80.50	81	81	TATACHEM	59	59	61
GAR. POLY	75.50	75	76.50	MAHINDRA	52	52	51.50	TELCO	432.50	430	428.75
GE. SHIP	26.65	26.75	26.50	MASTERSHR	9.25	9	9.87	TISCO	642.50	647.50	646.25
				MATHER PL	87.50	83.75	85	VOLTAS	230	227.50	235

## FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE
AEI	243.9	242.0
ALLIANZ VR	1342.0	1335.0
BADEMER	176.2	176.0
BASF	244.8	245.4
BAYER	264.5	266.0
BAYER HYP	355.0	352.0
BAYER VER	345.0	342.0
BBC	309.0	309.0
BIF	372.0	369.5
BHW	504.0	501.0
CHEMIE-VER	0	120.0
COMMERZB	228.0	228.0
CONTI GLUM	247.0	244.5
DALMER BEN	641.0	648.0
DEUTSCH BIK	406.5	406.0
DLW	343.0	344.0
DRESNER B	241.0	240.5
DT-BANKCOCK	159.5	156.0
FAZLINDEX	453.12	450.87
GOUDSCHEN	248.3	240.0
GUTENOFF	0	0
HARPER	407.0	410.0
HOFSTET AG	262.5	263.4
HOFSTET	115.3	115.8
HORTEN	183.0	180.0
HUSSEL HLD	458.0	459.5
KALI SALZ	140.0	131.0
KARSTADT	454.0	456.0
KAUFHOF	399.0	399.8
KLOECK H	101.5	98.1
KLOECK W	0	81.5
LINDE	583.0	585.0
LUFTHANSA	150.0	148.8
MAN	156.8	153.5
MANNSMAN	125.5	125.0
MERCEDES	531.0	538.0
METALLGES	258.0	253.0
NIDORF PF	544.0	544.0
NORSK HYD	512.0	50.20
PHILIP KOM	609.0	609.5
PORSCH	515.0	508.5
PREUSSAG	157.0	156.5
PMA	195.1	193.0
RHEIN	203.3	203.9
RHEIN P	194.0	194.0
RHEINMETAL	283.0	266.0
SALAMANDER	260.0	259.0
SCHERING	437.5	435.0
SEL	311.0	310.0
SIEMENS	361.1	362.5
THYSSEN	126.0	124.8
WARTA	268.0	266.0
VERA	255.5	257.0
VEW	164.5	163.2
VOLKSWAGEN	240.5	239.8

## HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE
C H TUNNEL	14.90	14.80
CHUNG K	7.45	7.35
CHINA GAS	15.90	16.10
CHINA L-P	18.70	18.80
CHINA MOTR	18.00	17.90
OSMO PROP	3.15	3.15
EVERGOLD	3.33	3.33
FAR EAST C	7.1	7.2
GEN ORIENT	0	44.00
H C DEVELOP	8.70	8.70
H S INDEX	528.92	521.61
HANG LUNG	4.72	4.75
HANG SENG	32.50	32.50
HAW PAR BR	0	21.00
HK ELEC CO	7.90	7.95
HK KOLCO	6.70	6.70
HK LAND CO	7.70	7.80
HK SHAN BK	7.25	7.20
HK SHAN HT	3.90	3.80
HK TELE CO	7.15	7.20
HUTCH WHAN	8.30	8.35
IND EQ PAC	9.95	9.90
JARDINE N	12.00	11.80
KOLKOON	11.40	11.40
NEW WORLD	9.65	9.45
PAUL Y CON	1.66	1.66
REALTY DEV	5.65	5.65
S H K CO	1.75	1.75
S H K PROP	9.80	9.60
SINE DARY	1.46	1.45
STELLUX MFG	5.80	5.75
SWIRE PAC	17.10	16.90
T Y B CO	14.20	14.40
TAI CHEUNG	3.40	3.37
UNION BANK	1.53	1.53
WOCK HAD	0	7.25
WOCK MARI	0	7.15
WORLD INTL	3.22	3.25

## AMMAN

	OPNG	CLSG	JOR NATIONAL BANK	
			JOR PAPER CARDBRDG	
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY			JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.			JOR PIPES MANUFAC	
ARAB BANK			JOR PRESS/PUBLIS.	2.00 2.05
ARAB CHEMICAL DTER	4.35	4.25	JOR PRINTING/PACK.	
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.47	1.48	JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	
ARAB INSURANCE	0.94	0.94	JOR SECURIT. CORP	0.91 0.91
ARAB INT. INV/TRAD.	---	---	JOR SELPHO CHEM.	
ARAB INT. UNION INS	0.96	0.97	JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	1.32 1.29
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.53	0.58	JOR WORSTED MLL	
ARAB JOR/INVST/BK			JOR. KUWAIT AGR	1.00 1.00
ARAB PAPER CON/TRD	0.37	0.36	JOR. PETROLEUM REF	
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.			JOR. FRENCH INS.	
ARAB PHARMA/CHEM	0.76	0.75	JOR. INV. FIN. CORP	
ARAB POTASH CO.	---	---	JORDANIAN GULF REAL	
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65	JORDAN DATRY	1.00 1.00
ARABIAN TRADING			JORDAN GULF BANK	
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95	JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94 0.95
CAIRO AMMAN BANK			JORDAN INSURANCE	13.85 13.90
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS			JORDAN ISLAMIC BMK	
DAR ALDAMA DV/INV.			JORDAN KUMAIT BANK	
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.			JORDAN TANNING	1.58 1.55
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR			LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	4.05	4.05	MACH/EOU/RENT/MAIN	0.81 0.81
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63	MAS INDUSTRIES	0.69 0.73
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.32	1.32	MIDDLE EAST HOTEL	0.60 0.40
GENERAL MINING.			MIDDLE EAST INS	60.00 60.00
HIMMER MINERALS	0.79	0.79	MINERALS RESEARCH	0.60 0.60
HOLY LAND INS.	1.15	1.20	NAT. FIN. INVEST CO	
IND./MATCH JEMCO			NAT/CABLE/WIRE/MF	
INDSTR DEVLPT BHK			NATIONAL AHLIA INS	1.27 1.28
INDSTR/COMM/AGR.			NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.50 0.50
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75	NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	
INTERN. COMM/INV	0.64	0.64	NATIONAL STEEL	
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.96	0.96	ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25 0.28
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64	PETRA BANK	1.95 2.00
ITERMED/PETRI/CH			PETRA JOR. INS.	0.50 0.50
J. TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.75	0.75	PHILADELPHIA INS.	
JERUSALEM INS.	1.32	1.30	RAFFIA INDUSTRIAL	0.80 0.80
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	13.60	13.60	REAL ESTATE INV.	
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR			SHIPPING LINES	0.84 0.85
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.01	25.05	SPINNING WEAVING	
JOR ELECTRIC POWER			THE HOUSING BANK	
JOR FINANCE HOUSE			UNITED INSURANCE	2.50 2.50
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY			UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND	
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.50	2.50	UNIVERSAL INS.	
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.			WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	0.85 0.85
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20	YARMOUK INSURANCE	

## PHILIPPINES MAKATI

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR	BUY	SELL	OPEN	BC-A	71.00
STOCK				LC-A	.46
AC-A	9.10	9.10	9.10	LC-B	.47
AC-B	4.15	4.25	4.25	PK-A	.37
FE-A	2.30	2.50	2.50	PK-B	.38
GLO	2.30	33.00			.39
PLDT	144.00	145.00	144.00		
KPSI-A	1.40	1.70			.017
SMC-A	131.00	132.00	132.00	LC-A	.0024
SMC-B	150.00	151.00	151.00	LC-B	.0026
MINING SECTOR				OPM-A	.038
APX-A	.029	.03	.03	OPM-B	.039
APX-B	.03	.032		OV-A	.034
AT-A	22.50	22.75	22.50	OV-B	.034

## Makati Stock Market Report

OFFICIAL INFORMATION	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
COMM.-IND.	1,172,970	20,707,835	761.31	0.86 UP
MINING	37,825,900	7,727,300	4,917.13	13.86 DN
OIL	68,550,000	1,289,650	5.735	UNCHANGED
TOTAL	107,548,870	29,724,985	763.45	0.33 DN

## PHILIPPINES MANILA

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR	BUY	SELL	OPEN	BC-A	71.50	75.00
STOCK				LC-A	.46	.47
SMC-A	131.00	132.00	131.00	LC-B	.47	.48
SMC-B	150.00	152.00	151.00	ZIP	.011	.013
SD-TIRE	28.00	29.00				
ANSCOR	4.25	4.30	4.25			
AC-A	8.90	9.00	9.10	STOCK	BUY	SELL
GLO	32.50	33.00	33.00	BP-A	.016	.017
FE-A	2.20	2.50		BP-B	.016	.017
FIN-B	2.40	2.44		LC-A	.0026	.0028
MINING SECTOR				LC-B	.0028	.003
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	OPM-A	.038	.039
APX-A	.029	.03	.03	OPM-B	.039	.04
APX-B	.03	.031		OV-A	.033	.034
AT-A	22.25	22.50	22.25	OV-B	.034	.035
AT-B	23.00	24.00		TA	.023	.024

## Manila Stock Market Report

OFFICIAL INFORMATION	SHARES	VALUES	AVERAGES	CHANGES
C/I	1,818,970	12,708,060	755.78	UP 5.33
MINING	134,912,900	12,884,250	4,327.82	UNCH.
OILS	101,300,000	2,267,100	5.982	DN .044
TOTAL	238,031,870	27,857,410	744.39	UP 0.10

## SINGAPORE

NAME	LAST	PR	CL	GUINNESS	255	251	LION CORP	152	148
				GULA	-----	-----	UTD MFG	61	61
AJINOMOTO	285	285		H L IND.	117	115	M'HITA	510	510
ALEXANDRA	150	170		H TAI PAN	52	49	M'HATA	61	61
AMAL IND	112	112		HARIMAU	95	94	HAGLUN	196	195
AMB HLDGS	185	185		HAW PAR	285	280	NALEX IND	380	380
AMCOL	132	130		HEKZA	106	105	HARDPOLO	86	82.5
BA TOB	151	150		HIND NOTL	34	32	MCB HOPS	71	71
C & C	209	204		HTL M'EGAR	560	560	MENANG	49	49
CARLSBERG	570	560		HTL NEGAS	350	350	METAL BOX	410	410
CORAL STOR	385	380		HTL PROPS	85	84.5	METRO	590	585
COYAPU	890	887		HTL ROYAL	115	120	MULPHALIND	20	20
DENDLOPIND	81	79.5		HUME IND	167	167	MULPHALTO	39.5	38.5
DUTCHBABY	-----	450		HWA HONG	87	86	MURATA	77	77
ESSO ROD	366	370		INATEX	29	29	N ST TIME	320	320
EU YAN S.	196	196		ISEHAN	480	480	NOL IRON	685	670
EVERPEACE	-----	-----		J CEMENT	58	59.5	-----	137	134
F A C B	60	60		J ENGRG	225	222	ONE	380	368
F B ASSET	47	47		J CEMENT	97	97	PALMCO	50	49.5
F B SHIP	198	195		K G HLDGS	283	283	ROBINSON	208	209
F&N ORD	810	800		K KELLAS	118	5	S PRESS	755	750
FEB CABLE	-----	-----		K L IND	31	3	S SHIP	235	231
FED FLOUR	560	560		KAMUNTING	95	95	SATERAS	49.5	46
G KENT	72	72		KE SANG	120	-----	SEAL INC	89	89
G TOAN	250	250		KENTUCKY	217	212	SEAVIEW	173	173
GREN CORP	68	66.5		KEPPEL	207	202	SHELL ORD	472	466
GENIENTY	398	392		KG FLOUR	225	225	SIA	1120	1090
GOLD COIN	181	182		KIAN JOO	238	238	SIN MENG	270	270
GOODWOOD	1050	1050		KINGS HTL	140	140	SOUTH (N)	84	84
GRAND CREN	98	97		KUMP ENAS	87.5	86	SSANGYONG	90.5	92
GSIL	121	120		L A MGRP	80	80	TRANSMARC	360	355



## UN official predicts oil price will go up

UNITED NATIONS, March 30, (Opecna): Nicky Beredjick, director of the Natural Resources and Energy Division of the UN Department of Technical Cooperation for Development, said yesterday that sooner or later, "oil prices may become tight and prices will consequently rise."

Speaking at the start of the debate in the committee on the development of new and renewable sources of energy, the senior UN official said the present situation of petroleum abundance was likely to change in the long run.

Given the lead times for development and deployment of new sources, there could be no let-up in the quest for environmentally acceptable and low-cost alternative energy sources, he said, adding that for many people in the rural areas of the developing world, providing small amounts of electrical energy for essential services and fuelwood for cooking and heating was important.

He said his department was currently responsible for disbursing some \$10 million annually from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and trust funds for projects in energy planning, solar, wind and biomass, and mini-hydro-power.

An additional \$25 million, contributed by Italy, had been devoted to geothermal energy projects over the past two years, Beredjick said.

He said his department had worked towards establishing reliable systems of information for energy planning and plan execution. It had developed, in cooperation with Japan, a software package called "enerplan" which allowed energy planners to build models for simulating economic and energy systems.

Another new area of major concentration was energy conservation within the framework of the national energy policy, including promotion of energy audits, application of energy savings management procedures and investments in key energy-related industries.

## Omani minister says oil prices to improve shortly

MUSCAT, March 30 (Opecna): Oil prices on world markets would improve shortly as signs for such improvement were already visible, Omani Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Said Bin Ahmed Al Shanfari, said here.

He said that the genuine intention of oil exporting countries to stabilise oil prices was an important factor.

The minister said that recent oil discoveries in Oman increased the country's hydrocarbon reserves.

Meanwhile it was reported from Kuala Lumpur that a three-man group comprising oil officials from Oman and Egypt was visiting Malaysia to request the country to cut back its oil production.

The group has already held a meeting with senior officials of Petronas, the Malaysian state oil corporation. It had earlier visited Mexico and Colombia.

A Petronas spokesman said that the request on a cutback, however, would have to be referred to the government for a decision.

Petronas president Aziz Zainul Abidin said last week that Malaysia, whose current oil output stood at 540,000 bpd, supported all efforts to stabilise oil prices, including those made by Opec.

## GM's sales boost

NEW YORK, March 30, (Reuters): General Motors Corp. sold more goods than any other US company last year, according to the Forbes 500 survey released yesterday, but IBM made the most profits and Citicorp ended the year with the most assets.

IBM, the giant computer-maker, also topped Forbes magazine's annual rankings in total stock market value.

According to Forbes, which ranks the nation's 500 biggest corporations by sales, net profits, total assets and stock market value, 255 companies made all four lists and 531 firms ranked on two or more of the rosters. A total of 796 publicly held manufacturing or service firms made at least one of the Forbes 500 rankings.

GM, which has fallen behind rival Ford Motor Co. in terms of profits in recent years, had sales of \$101.8 billion during 1987, giving it the top place on the Forbes sales 500 for the third year.

Exxon was second in sales, with \$76.4 billion.

## Sterling pound jumps to its highest level in two years

## Dollar firms as world watches Japanese traders

LONDON, March 30, (Reuters): Tokyo shares soared and the dollar firmed today as investors prepared for the huge movements of money they still expect to follow the end of Japan's fiscal year tomorrow.

Few are confident they know where the money will go, but many are guessing the Tokyo Stock Market will see much of it.

And, as earlier fears faded that big Japanese investors might sell dollar assets, the dollar edged higher, up 0.75 pfennig and half a yen to just under 1.67 West German marks and around 125.25 Japanese yen.

In London the British pound has jumped to its highest level in two years, boosted by a strong economy, Britain's relatively high interest rates and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's unrelenting grip on inflation.

Sterling had held relatively steady for 12 months and was uncapped when the Conservative government decided earlier this month to ease central bank intervention and allow the pound to rise against a previous

target against the West German mark.

"It is a currency renaissance," said Keith Skeoch, chief economist at the London investment firm James Capel and Co. "What we're beginning to see is the transition of sterling from being one of the weaker brethren among the international currencies to one of the stronger."

Jonathan Lopatin, vice-president for foreign exchange dealing at Goldman Sachs and Co. in London, said, "the authorities decided to allow sterling exchange rates to rise."

The Bank of England's index measuring the pound's trade-weighted value against 17 currencies finished at 77.7 today, unchanged from yesterday, when it rose 0.6 point to reach its highest level since Jan 16, 1986, when it closed at 78.

The pound was quoted at 3.1225 West German marks late this afternoon in London, up from 3.1069 marks yesterday and \$1.8790 versus \$1.8705.

The price of gold was fixed in

London this morning at \$454 an ounce, down 90 cents from last afternoon. Oil prices were little changed, with Brent crude oil from the North Sea selling at \$15.85 a barrel for May delivery.

In Tokyo, the world's biggest stock market, the 225-share Nikkei index jumped 366.98 points to 26,320.07 — just 1.2 per cent below its all time peak, set on October 14 just before the global crash. It rose nearly 1,000 points since Monday.

Consider

"The market is extremely strong," said Yozo Asai of Yamaichi Securities Co. in Tokyo. "It is rising at a feverish pitch."

Japanese tax changes, especially an income tax on interest, which take effect on Friday could mean big changes in the Tokyo stock market.

"The custom has been that if you save a little money, you put it in a tax-free, fixed-interest investment... now that is gone, people have to consider capital gains. Managing cash is a new concept," said Hideo Nakazawa,

general manager of the equities department of Nomura Securities Co. Ltd. in Tokyo.

Meanwhile, the dollar's firm tone buoyed European share prices. But trading was quiet ahead of the long Easter weekend.

London's FTSE Index of 100 Blue Chip shares rose more than 10 points by midmorning to briefly trade above 11,775 but tailed off slightly towards noon.

Frankfurt's 30-share Boersen-Zeitungs Index rose 1.24 points to 294.78 and the Paris Bourse indicator rose 0.49 per cent. Hong Kong's Hang Seng index was up 7.31 points to 2,528.92 and Sydney's All Ordinaries Index rose 20.4 points to 1,416.4.

Priced out

A firm dollar eases investors' worries that European and Asia companies' could be priced out of key foreign markets, but many dealers say they are not sure the pressure is off the dollar.

They say they have been unsettled by US and Japanese central banks intervention to prop the dollar's value. The Bank of Japan has been buying dollars all

week, and the US Federal Reserve joined in yesterday, after European markets closed.

"The market was quite surprised by the Fed's intervention and wants to wait and see what happens in April," said Connie Hubert, a trader at manufacturers Hanover Trust Co. in Frankfurt.

"I was surprised that the Fed would intervene at that point. But if it keeps the market off-guard and comes in at the same levels or higher each time, it provides a modicum of support for the dollar," said Robert White of First Interstate Bank in Los Angeles.

Stepped

Some dealers said the central banks probably stepped into the currency markets to cool off a selling spree that had been set off by speculation that Japanese insurance companies were gearing up to dump dollar holdings after March 31.

"Life insurance companies do not seem to want to sell the dollar now," said Koichiro Oka, chief customer dealer with Fuji Bank Ltd in Tokyo.

## Non-Resident Indians meet in Bahrain

By M.C. Bose in Bahrain

THE Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) from all the Gulf countries have started arriving in Bahrain for the first conference of NRI organisations in the region to be held at Hotel Diplomat today.

Nevin Meghiani, president of NRI Investors Group Bahrain told the Arab Times the seminar would mainly focus on the investment prospects in India.

The government of India is sending a large number of officials for the meeting, including P. G. Mankad, controller of capital issues and joint-secretary, Ministry of Finance, government of India.

"Non-Resident Indians have successfully launched a series of joint venture projects and it is clear that enormous potential exists to stimulate their involvement," NRI Bahrain group's convener has said.

Among the relevant issues to be discussed at the seminar

would be:

— Rules and regulations of the Reserve Bank of India governing the remittances of the Non-Resident Indians.

— Can Non-Resident Indians approach the government to lessen the burden with regard to the procedure followed for allotment of shares by private firms and if yes what are the methods to be followed.

— How individuals can utilise the new policy direction of the government to set up industries and manufacturing units.

Organised by the NRI Investors Group Bahrain in cooperation with various organisations operating in the Gulf, the one-day meeting is expected to be opened by M.P. Muralidhara Menon, Indian ambassador to Bahrain.

Leading NRI industrialists, taxation experts, NRI consultative committee members and financial experts will present papers at the seminar.

The organisers of the seminar claim that about 275 persons are expected to attend the seminar.

## WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, March 30, (Reuters): Shares closed sharply higher as confidence returned after strong performances on international markets overnight. The All Ordinaries Index gained 20.4 to 1,416.4.

TOKYO: Prices rose for the third consecutive day on enthusiasm stemming from the start of a new fiscal year and gains by Wall Street and the dollar. The Nikkei Index surged up 366.98 to 26,320.07, its second biggest rise this year.

HONG KONG: Prices closed steady but profit-taking eroded most of their early gains. The Hang Seng Index was up 7.31 to 2,528.92.

SINGAPORE: Shares rose across the board on speculative buying and bargain-hunting after four days of declines. The Straits Times Industrial Index gained 10.72 to 930.07.

BOMBAY: Prices fell on renewed speculative selling ahead of a long weekend holiday. Dealers reported heavy profit-taking. The market will be closed until

Monday.

FRANKFURT: Prices fell back from a higher opening to close mixed as operators squared positions ahead of the Easter break. The Commerzbank Index, set at mid-session, was up 5.7 to 1,379.7.

ZURICH: Prices were steady, underpinned by Wall Street's overnight gain and the slightly firmer dollar. The all-share Swiss Index rose 1.2 to 817.1.

PARIS: Prices were lower in thin trade with most investors unwilling to commit themselves in a sluggish market ahead of France's presidential election next month. The 30-share bourse indicator declined by 0.41 per cent.

LONDON: Prices drifted down on lack of buying interest ahead of the Easter weekend holiday break. At 1445 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 6.9 to 1,758.2.

NEW YORK: Stocks showed moderate gains in early trading, helped by a slight rise in the dollar against the yen. The Dow gained six to 2,004.

## US stock prices close higher

## Fed keeping currency market guessing

NEW YORK, March 30, (Reuters): The US Federal Reserve has had some success in preventing a further drop in the dollar through an inscrutable intervention strategy that has thrown the currency markets off balance, dealers said yesterday.

Central banks routinely support currencies by buying at a central level, but dealers say the Fed, the US central bank, has recently achieved a level of sophistication in market intervention that eludes quick intervention.

Strange

"There's something strange about the way the Fed is doing things. But if it can keep people off balance it can postpone pressure on the dollar," said one dealer with a US bank.

Dealers reported the Fed bought dollars yesterday morning when the US currency was at 124.50 yen. They said they were stunned when the central bank came back in the afternoon to buy dollars around 124.70 yen.

"I was surprised that the Fed would intervene at that point. But if it keeps the market off-guard and comes in at the same levels of higher each time, it provides a modicum of support for the dollar," said Robert White of First Interstate Bank in Los Angeles.

Dealers said they doubt the Fed is intent on keeping the dollar at a specific level, but in-

stead is tinkering with the market's psychology. The Fed traditionally does not discuss its intervention in the currency markets.

"You can't tell much by looking at the levels the Fed has been in. Maybe it's trying to get the message across that it is still committed to dollar stability," one dealer said.

The Fed is believed to have bought dollars on Monday when the currency stood at 124 yen and also last Friday, when it was slightly above 125 yen. The US Central Bank on both days worked in concert with the Bank of Japan.

The dollar moved sharply higher yesterday, snapping out of its decline largely because of Fed and Bank of Japan intervention, dealers said. It closed at 125.15 yen and 1.6685 West German marks, up from 123.75 yen and 1.6555 marks on Monday.

Drastic

Although the dollar's slide over the last few days has not been drastic, dealers said it was crucial that the central banks should be able to intervene for several reasons.

For one thing, the weak dollar has unsettled US stocks, reviving fears about a repeat of the October stock market crash. The Dow Jones Industrial Average lost 108 points last week, its biggest weekly loss so far this year.

The dollar's sudden weakness also has riled the US bond market, sending the yield on the 30-year issue to 8.84 per cent at Monday's close, its highest level since January.

Meanwhile, the stock prices closed higher yesterday in moderate trading as bargain hunting and a firmer dollar combined to halt a three-day pull-back.

Advances

The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 18.57 to close at 1998.34. The index jumped about 18 points in the first 15 minutes of trading and moved back above the 2000 level for a short time before retreating in the final hour.

Advances led declines 1,018-467 among the 1,968 issues crossing the New York Stock Exchange tape. Volume totaled 152,690,000 shares, compared with 142,820,000 traded on Monday.

"After you come down for three days, you get into an overall condition," said Larry Wachtel, an analyst with Prudential-Bache Securities Inc. "This was a bargain-hunting bounce, or a technical bounce. I wouldn't get all excited."

Wachtel said the market received support from the ground in the dollar, which rose to 124.90 yen in New York trading, up from 123.80 on Monday.

The final hour of trading took away from the market's performance because it involved a selloff in some of the key high-tech stocks, such as IBM and Digital Equipment, Wachtel said.

"The late selloff takes some of the shine away from the advance," Wachtel said. "It was a respectable recovery, but the tone of the market at the bell left something to be desired."

Broad-market indexes gained. The New York Stock Exchange composite index rose 1.11 to 147.22. Standard & Poor's 500 stock index rose 2.01 to 260.07. The price of an average share added 24 cents.

Assumption

"The working assumption is that this is a technical rally off a very bad week last week," said Ralph Bloch, senior vice-president of Raymond, James & Associates in St Petersburg, Fla., referring to the sharp pullback that saw the Dow give back nearly 109 points and fall below the 2000 level.

Bloch believes the advance is technical in nature "because it is very unusual for a market to turn on the dime and take off again."

"If it proceeds to go a little higher, then it tests the lows established on Monday, then we might be ready to rally," Bloch said.

"The market is finding some

support at 1980, but it is a difficult period here. The burden of proof is back on the Bulls. We had a real crack in the uptrend line last week."

Before the market opened, the Commerce Department said the government's main gauge of future economic activity — the index of leading economic indicators — rose 0.9 per cent in February.

The increase followed a revised 1.1 per cent decline in January and a revised 0.4 per cent increase in December. The February data was in line with Wall Street expectations.

On the trading floor, bankers' trust was the most active issue, down 1/4 to 31-1/2.

Variety followed, up 1/4 to 3-3/8.

Texaco was third, jumping 3-1/4 to 48. Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. said it intends to file the necessary government papers in order to clear purchases of up to 15 per cent of the outstanding common shares of Texaco.

Among the Blue Chips "General Electric was up 18 to 134 1/2. American Express was unchanged at 24-1/2. USX was up 3/8 to 30-1/2 and Merck was off 1/4 to 160."

The Amex market value index rose 2.33 to 294.33. Advances led declines 357-208 among the 829 issues traded.



IKEA yesterday celebrated its 4th anniversary by opening the New Market Hall at its premises in Shuwaikh. The opening ceremony was performed by Sweden's Ambassador to Kuwait, Ulf Norstrom. Picture shows Ulf Norstrom sawing a piece of wood as part of the opening ceremony. (Photo by Javed Basra)

## KD deposit rates display softer tone

KUWAITI dinar interbank deposits displayed a softer tone in a calm market, with traders relieved over a Central Bank move late on Tuesday to renew all its separate monthly loan settlements with Kuwaiti banks.

During the past two days rates have edged up following a warning by the bank it might be unable this month to meet all its agreed financial support for the banks' problem loans.

"The market has calmed down. It was messy earlier because people were nervous about the central bank loan settlement," one dealer said.

She added that a payment date for a KD7.5 million bond issue went smooth because banks had covered themselves.

Short-term funds were well-offered with tomorrow's next quoted in a wide range of 10, five per cent and spot-next easing one point to six, five per cent.

## Ecuador suggests 5pc cut in Opec oil output

QUITO, March 30, (Reuters): Ecuador's Energy Minister Fernando Santos Alvide said yesterday that Opec should agree on a five per cent total output cut to boost tumbling international oil prices.

"This decision, which would have a healthy effect on the market, should be taken by Opec as long as other producers not belonging to the organisation adopt a similar conduct," Santos Alvide said in an interview with Reuters.

Go up

He said that if both Opec and non-Opec members agree to cut production by about five per cent, prices could go up to the official \$18 a barrel level.

Santos Alvide said all 13 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries were producing about 17 million barrels per day (bpd). The group's quota is 15.06 million

bpd, excluding Iraq, which did not sign the last Opec accord.

"A five per cent reduction in the second quarter would amount to about 850,000 barrels per day," Santos Alvide said. "If you add up the cuts by non-Opec members, we would reach the effect we are seeking on the market."

At least two Opec ministers plan to try to persuade non-Opec producers to cooperate in an effort to boost prices, he said.

Santos Alvide also said that an Opec price committee meeting, set for April 9 in Vienna, may not be enough to halt sliding world oil prices. "The price committee should call an extraordinary ministerial conference to make adjustments to the organisation's crude output," he said.

The Opec price committee is made up of oil ministers from Nigeria, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Algeria and Venezuela.

## US factory orders fell by 0.8pc in February

WASHINGTON, March 30, (Reuters): New orders for US manufacturing goods fell by 0.8 per cent in February, the Commerce Department reported today.

The February drop was within the expectations of economists who had expected orders to fall by as much as one per cent. Factory orders were down 0.6 per cent in January.

February factory orders fell by \$1.71 billion from January bringing the total to a seasonally adjusted \$210.86 billion, the Commerce Department said.

Decline

The February decline was the largest monthly decline since August, when orders fell 1.4 per cent, the Department said.

Excluding defence, which varies widely from month to month, factory orders fell 0.5 per cent in February after declining 0.6 per cent in January, the agency said.

Despite the decrease, February orders were \$16.23 billion, or 8.3 per cent, higher than a year ago, the agency said.

The department said most of the February decline was in orders for durable goods — expensive items such as refrigerators — which fell 1.1 per cent to \$112.92 billion after a 1.2 per cent drop in January.

On March 22, the department said in a preliminary report that February and January durable goods orders had each fallen 1.8 per cent.

Orders for non-durable goods in February fell 0.4 per cent to \$97.94 billion after rising 0.2 per cent in January.

Despite the decline in February factory orders, economists said recent economic data showed the economy was growing at a steady pace.

Activity

Meanwhile, the most widely used barometer of future US economic activity rose moderately last month while sales of new homes had their greatest increase in almost two years, the government said yesterday.

The rises conformed with most other economic statistics for

February. More than half a million new jobs were created, industrial output increased, and personal income and spending expanded. Inflation, meanwhile, remained under control.

The Commerce Department said its index of leading economic indicators rose a seasonally adjusted 0.9 per cent in February after falling a revised 1.1 per cent in January. The monthly index has been sawing since last fall.

Five of the nine components that make up the index contributed to the gain, with a sharp jump in building permits leading the way.

Jumped

The department also said sales of new single-family homes jumped 20.3 per cent in February to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 628,000, following declines of 10.3 per cent in January and 6.9 per cent in December.

The homes sales increase, the largest in nearly two years, reflected sharp gains in all regions except the west, the department said. At the same, the average price of a new home fell to

\$139,000 in February from \$145,700 in January.

"Both indicators are additional bright signs for the economy, pretty clearly raising the question of how much growth we will have, not whether we will have a decline," said Allen Sinai, chief economist of the Boston Company in New York.

Revised

Earlier this year most economists predicted a downturn in the economy because of the effect the stock market crash last October, but they have revised their forecasts upward as consumer spending has held its own.

A continuation of the economy's 64-month expansion, already the longest ever in peacetime, is expected to help Vice-President George Bush's presidential bid because of his association with the Reagan administration's economic policies.

Economists said the recovery in home sales was the result of a decline in mortgage rates in February and increased

optimism about the economy on the part of homebuyers.

"I think homebuyers are starting to pick up on the more optimistic economic reports," said economist Mark Obrinski of the US League of Savings Institutions.

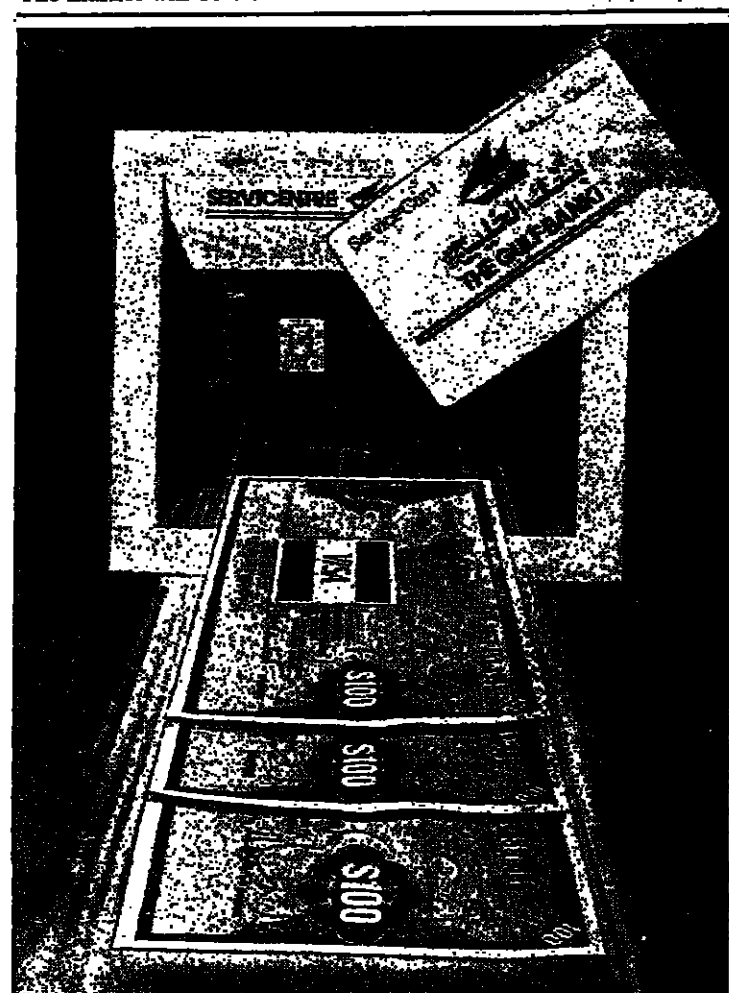
"Also, mortgage rates were down in February and that never fails to spark buyer interest," he said.

Encouraged

While economists were encouraged by the home sales recovery, they noted it follows two months of sharp declines and still leaves sales 14.9 per cent below their year-ago rate.

"This is back to being in the doldrums instead of being in the dumper," said Martin Regalia, chief economist of the National Council of Savings Institutions.

Regalia, who said the January sales decline appeared to be an aberration, said he expects sales to remain at about the current rate for a few months before tending lower later this year following an expected rise in mortgage rates.

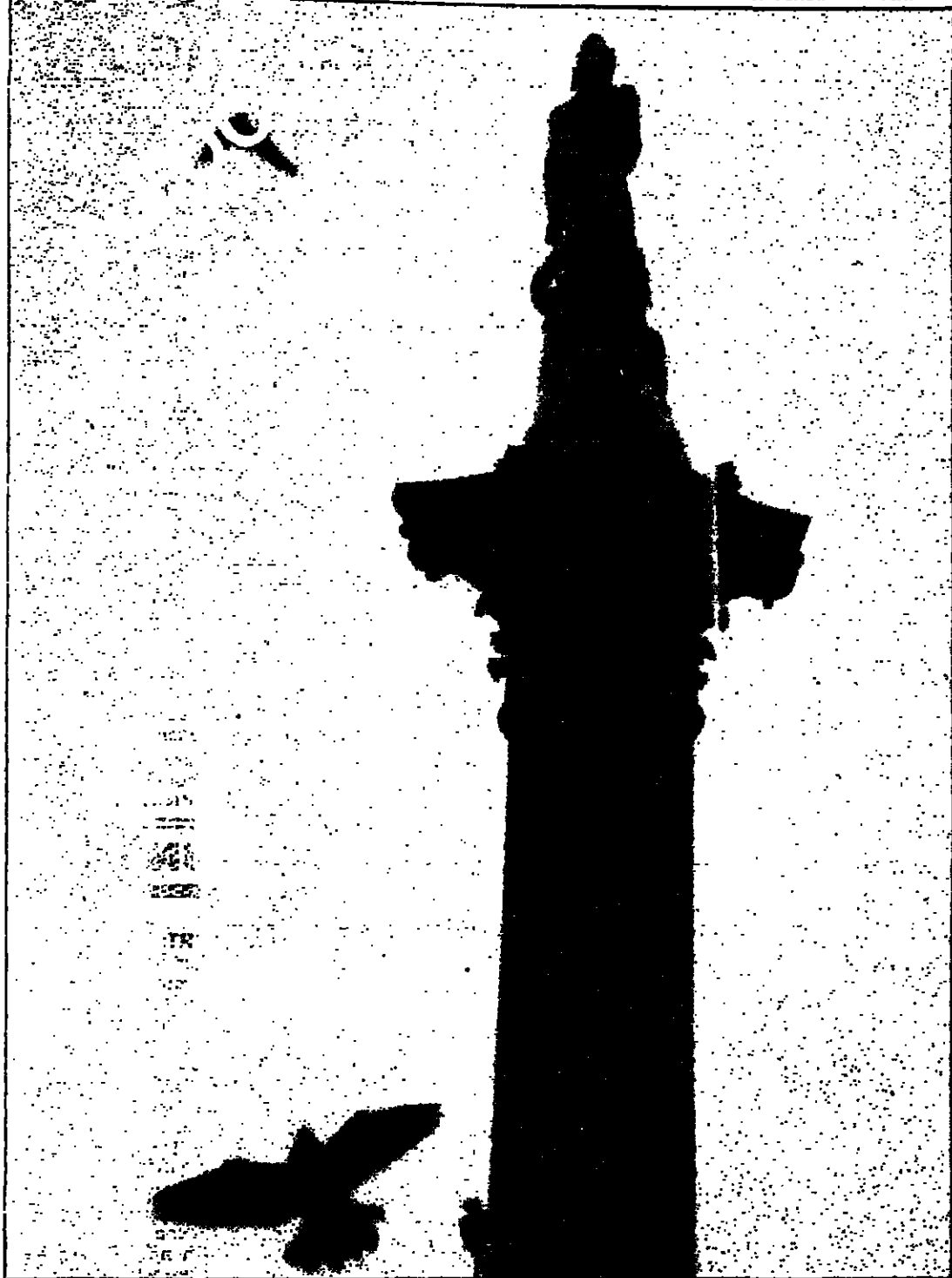


Gulf Bank customers can now buy travellers cheques in less than two minutes at selected automated teller machines (ATM). The Gulf Bank is the first bank in Kuwait, and one of the few banks in the world, to offer this service. Visa travellers cheques in \$100 denominations can be purchased from the Mubarak Al Kabir, Salmiya Main, Salmiya Co-op, Mansouriya, Adaliya, Shuwaikh, Fahd Al Salem, Fahsheel Main, and Dahiya Abdulla Al Salem branches of Gulf Bank.

## SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 30.3.88</
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A MEMBER of the environment group Greenpeace scales Nelson's column in London's Trafalgar Square to protest against acid rain. Two men, using climbing equipment, scaled the 170-foot (52 metre) monument and unfurled a banner from the top. (Reuters wirephoto)



REPUBLICAN presidential candidate Vice-President George Bush displays the thumbs up signal after he climbs into the cockpit of a 1949 Grumman FBF-2 Bearcat Navy fighter plane on Tuesday at a museum. (Reuters wirephoto)



ORCHARDIST Bob Boyce happily holds a 5-kg gold nugget he found on his small farm at Beenleigh, south of Brisbane, Australia, on Tuesday while digging a hole for a tree plant. The 14 by 8 inch nugget could be worth \$70,000. (Reuters wirephoto)



THE headquarters of the South African Tourist Office were sacked by about 40 individuals who participated in the demonstration to protest the shooting death of Dulcie September who headed the African National Congress, Paris bureau. (Reuters wirephoto)



A WOMAN looks at the debris brought in by the floods in Bonn-Beuel after the water levels on the River Rhine slowly began to recede yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)



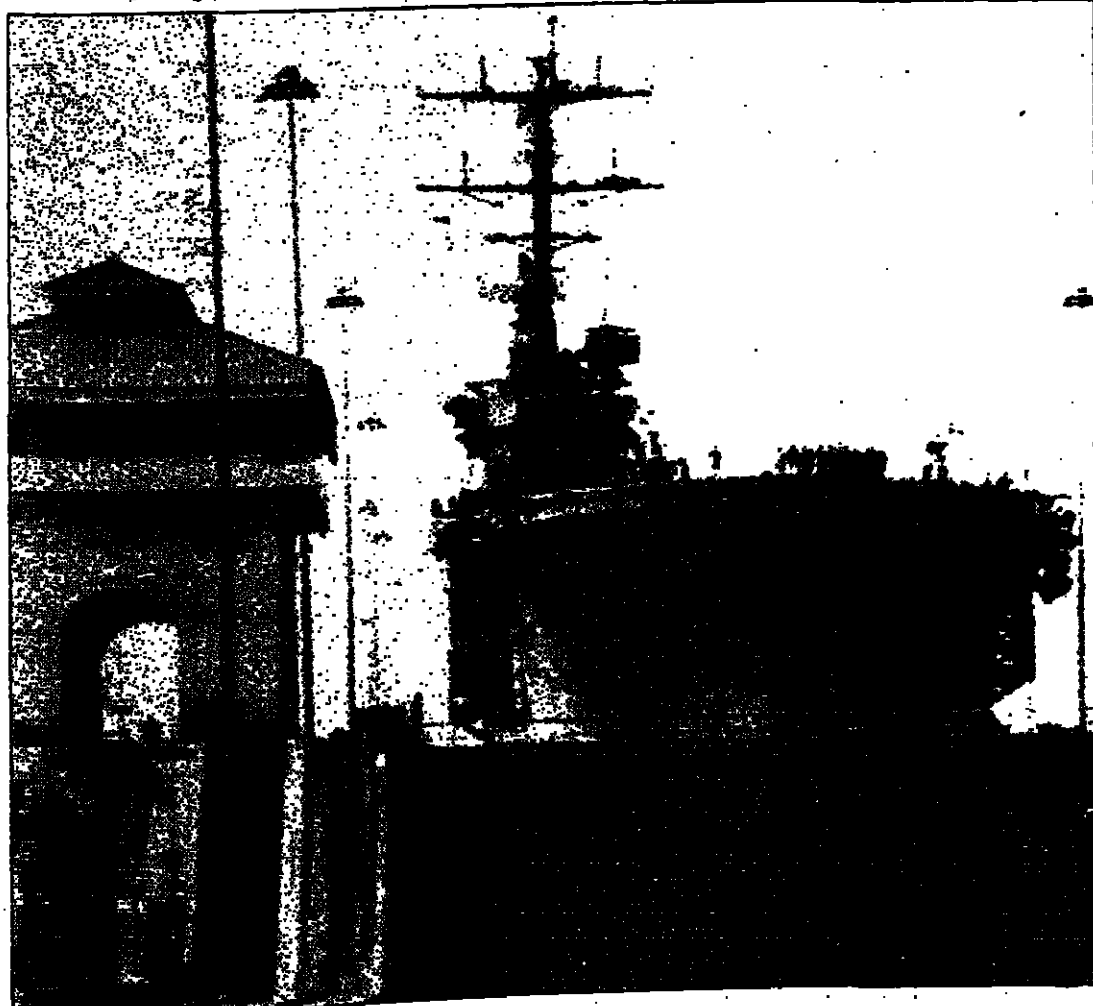
DOLLY Parton, showing off her new slim figure on Tuesday in London during the launch of her first album and single on the CBS label. She previously recorded for 20 years with RCA. (Reuters wirephoto)



FIREMEN take to ladders to battle a fire that broke out at the Cuban Consulate in Montreal, Canada, on Tuesday. (Reuters wirephoto)



SOUTH African Conservative party candidate, Corne Mulder is lifted shoulder high after a landslide victory over the ruling National Party candidate in local by-elections. The right-wing triumph threatens to halt the government's limited reform of apartheid. (Reuters wirephoto)



THE US Navy helicopter and troop carrier the USS Okinawa approaches the Miraflores locks in the Panama Canal. (Reuters wirephoto)



CYPRUS police restrain a Palestinian demonstrator outside the Israeli embassy in Nicosia after breaking up a protest in support of the Palestinian uprising in Israeli-occupied territories. (Reuters wirephoto)



A FIND of mammoth bones in Shropshire was the starting point for these life-size models made by the dinosaur company Cycad, guided by director Roby Braun seen here. The 1985 discovery led to excavations which produced the most complete adult mammoth remains in Britain. These models are built of styrofoam and nylon fibres on moulded steel frames. (Reuters wirephoto)



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

## ACCOMMODATION

### Wanted

SALMIYA, near the Indian school, a single room with tele facilities for an elderly teacher. Tele. Mr. Kurup, 5617151. (AT4-41610-3)

SHARQ or the city. One room in a flat for two bachelors to share with a family. Tele. Iqbal 2413466. 2412359, 8am - 12.30 pm & 4.30 - 8 pm. (AT6-41653-2)

### Available

SALMIYA, Bahrain Street. Independent portion of a 2-bedroom flat, with water, electricity, etc. for Indians/Pakistanis to share with a family from 1.5.88. Bus routes 18, 19. Tele. 5755375, after 2.30 pm. (AT5-41637-2)

SALMIYA, opp. the Pakistani School. Two bedrooms in a furnished spacious flat, with water, electricity and tele. facilities for a Pakistani bachelor or a couple. Tele. Mr. A. Ghufoor, 2446638, 2446847. (AT5-41632-3)

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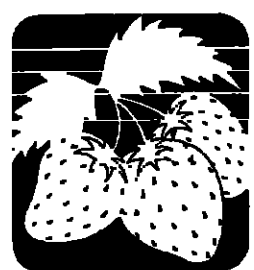
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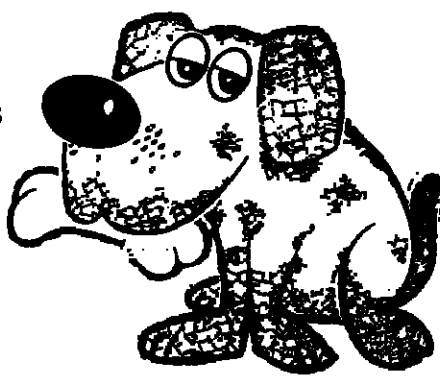
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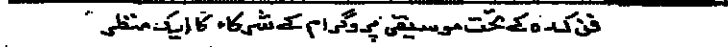
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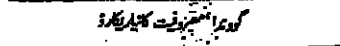
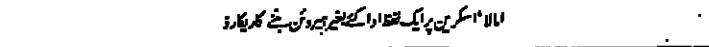
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رپورٹ: شمیم زید کے تصاویر: جاوید بسرا

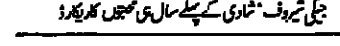

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جیکی شریف شادی کے پہلے اسی طرح تھیں گھبراہٹ

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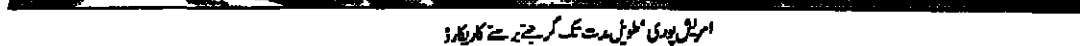
میں نے اس سے اس کتاب کا ڈھونڈ کر لیا ہے۔ گھبراہٹ کے اس دور میں بہت سے افراد کا یہ گمان بھی ہے کہ انہیں اپنی شہریتوں سے کامیابی ہی ہے اور اب دیکھا کہ ان کی

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۱۰۰..... دین کیونکہ یہ صورتوں کو پیش کر کے سنایا  
 ہے، اس وقت سے میں کوئی بکھارہ تو کم نہیں کیا ہے  
 ۱۰۱..... بے اس راہ میں کوئی ترقی کی ہے اور کیا اس میں  
 ہے کہ بچے کے لیے جیسا کہ خداوند کا ارادہ تھا  
 ۱۰۲..... یہ صورتیں ہیں جو خداوند کے لیے  
 ۱۰۳..... یہ صورتیں ہیں جو خداوند کے لیے  
 ۱۰۴..... یہ صورتیں ہیں جو خداوند کے لیے  
 ۱۰۵..... یہ صورتیں ہیں جو خداوند کے لیے  
 ۱۰۶..... یہ صورتیں ہیں جو خداوند کے لیے  
 ۱۰۷..... یہ صورتیں ہیں جو خداوند کے لیے  
 ۱۰۸..... یہ صورتیں ہیں جو خداوند کے لیے  
 ۱۰۹..... یہ صورتیں ہیں جو خداوند کے لیے  
 ۱۱۰..... یہ صورتیں ہیں جو خداوند کے لیے

















## Stage set for World Cup chess

BRUSSELS, Belgium, March 30 (AP) — The inaugural \$600,000 World Cup Grand Prix chess competition starts with the Swift tournament here Friday, setting up a new and lucrative battle ground for the world's top chess players.

The top 25 players will compete in four of six selected tournaments over the next two years, vying for the \$100,000 first prize in the World Cup in addition to the prize money of the individual tournaments.

The card for the \$104,000 Swift tournament in Brussels is headed by former world champion Soviet Anatoly Karpov, Dutchman Jan Timman, currently the world's number three and Swiss veteran Viktor Korchnoi.

World champion Garry Kasparov, a favourite to win the overall competition and a driving force behind the World Cup, will sit out the first tournament.

"Biggest" — The World Cup is one of the biggest initiatives by the Grandmasters' Association, recently established as a base of power for the players in the face of the World Chess Federation, known by its French acronym Fide.

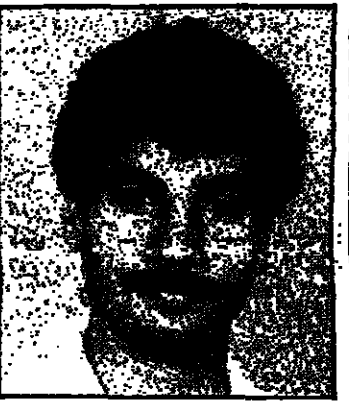
Apart from the world championship, the World Cup Grand Prix provides by far the biggest prizes for the international grandmasters.

"The interests of the GMA are also financial," said Timman. "In the end, we are professionals."

The 1988-89 World Cup is aimed at popularizing chess, making it more adaptable to the needs of the media, while at the same time providing a stronger financial base for the top players.

The World Cup will give chess a sense of continuity while the World Championships only provided an occasional peak of interest.

Fide has also expressed support for the competition, saying in a statement, the World Cup was "a great step in the promotion of chess."



## Faisal slams Hubara for century

CKK defeated Hubara Cricket Club by 74 runs in a Brud Trophy match at the EPI ground earlier this week.

Hubara, after winning the toss, put in CKK to bat. CKK scored 214 for the loss of six wickets in their allotted overs. The highlight of the match was Faisal's century. Faisal, who hit a ton in the previous match, opened the CKK innings with Amanullah, who was out with the score only 10.

Pervez joined Faisal and both these batsmen took the score to 133 before the former was out for 68. Pervez hit three sixes and three fours in his innings. Faisal remained unbeaten on 101.

For Hubara, Polister took three wickets while Baldi got two.

Facing a difficult task of scoring over seven runs an over, Hubara found the going too tough for them and were all out for 140. Mike D'Souza and Baldi scored 30 and 39 runs respectively.

For CKK, Khalid took two wickets while Adi, Faisal, Siraj, Amanullah and Nadeem got one each.

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## DETERMINED BRITON ENDS MEXICAN'S BRIEF REIGN

# Honeyghan KO's Vaca to regain WBC title

WEMBLEY, England, March 30 (AP) — Lloyd Honeyghan had promised for weeks that his welterweight boxing title was only on loan to Jorge Vaca.

He didn't need long to prove this point.

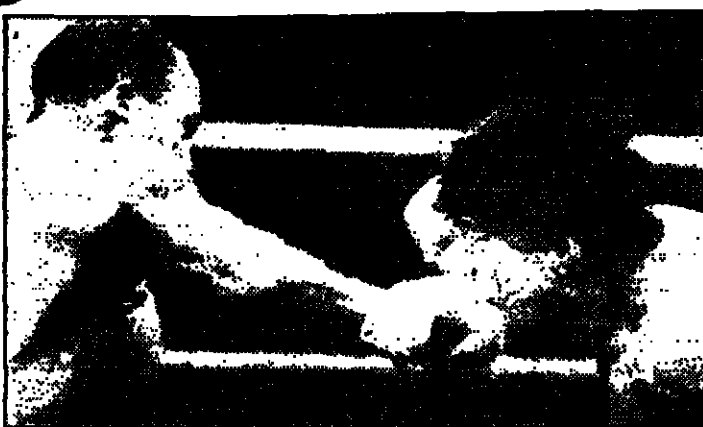
"I'm back in my rightful place," the 27-year-old Briton said after demolishing Vaca in three rounds last night to win back the World Boxing Council (WBC) title. "I'm going to keep the title for a long time."

Honeyghan, deltroned by Vaca five months ago in the only blemish of his 32-fight career, became only the second Briton to regain a world title at any weight when he knocked out the Mexican at the Wembley Arena.

Pinning Vaca to the ropes in the middle of the third round, Honeyghan unleashed a torrent of blows, finally putting his man down with a crushing right to the body after more than a minute of constant punishment.

"I was switching to the head and body. He didn't know where I was going to hit him," Honeyghan said.

Vaca, who won the title last October on points when Honeyghan was blamed for an



Honeyghan (left) lands a right to Vaca's chin. (Reuters wirephoto)

eight-round clash of heads that left the Mexican covered in blood and unable to continue, was outraged after his brief reign as champion.

"The last blow was definitely too low," Vaca said through an interpreter. "It had a piercing effect and took the wind out of me."

The craggy-faced Mexican, who had pledged he would be braver and stronger than Honeyghan, threw plenty of punches in the first two rounds.

But he lacked the challenger's power and penetration and also

had the worst possible start when a first-round cut opened up above the bridge of his nose.

For a time, history looked like it might repeat itself as Vaca glanced at referee Joe Cortez, pointing to the cut and then to his head, indicating he had been butted.

But this time, there was no stoppage, and no action against Honeyghan. Vaca lasted less than two more rounds, being counted out at 2:58 of the third.

He gave Honeyghan no credit for winning back the title, saying the Briton fought dirty.



Honeyghan is carried shoulder high by supporters after his victory. (Reuters wirephoto)

"From the start of the fight, I was complaining about the head butts," Vaca said after his record slipped to 43-5-1. "One definitely opened the cut. Another got my cheekbone. But the referee did nothing."

While Vaca slumped on his stool to be consoled by his corner, Honeyghan danced around the ring in jubilation, his flashy

maroon sequined shorts glistening in the bright lights of the indoor arena.

Honeyghan, who first won the title from Don Curry in September 1986 in Atlantic City, New Jersey, defended it successfully three times before losing to Vaca last October.

He built his reputation on power and ruthless aggression,

but maintained he was not mentally or physically prepared to defend against Vaca because of a number of unspecified personal problems and an injury to his right hand.

He showed no sign of discomfort in the rematch, and said revenge felt sweet.

"He got me on the ropes last time and couldn't knock me out," Honeyghan said. "I decided to get him on the ropes this time. We saw what happened." While Vaca contemplated his next move, Honeyghan, who five months ago considered retirement, looked ahead to the biggest fight of his life.

## Unification

His manager, Mickey Duff, said he would be trying to match Honeyghan in a unification welterweight showdown against the winner of next month's World Boxing Association contest between Marlon Starling and Mark Breland.

"He's going to be a star," Duff said of his fighter. "Breland would be the bigger fight probably, but Lloyd, for personal reasons, would like to fight Starling. He hates him."

## Cavaliers edge past Knicks

RICHFIELD, Ohio, March 30 (AP) — Guard Mark Price scored 24 points and reserve guard Dell Curry scored 13 of his 19 points in the fourth quarter and made a key steal as the Cleveland Cavaliers defeated New York 108-103 last night, the Knicks' 30th setback in 34 road games.

Cleveland's victory, only its fourth in its last 17 games, put the Cavaliers one-half game ahead of Philadelphia for the seventh spot in the eight-team Eastern Conference playoffs. Philadelphia leads Washington by one-half game and the Knicks by 1 and 1-2 games.

Cleveland led 102-95 with 1:09 remaining. New York pulled to 105-103 on 3-point baskets by Gerald Wilkins, who led the Knicks with 21 points, and Trent Tucker, the latter with 19 seconds left, and regained possession on a turnover. But Curry then stole a pass by Wilkins and made one of two free throws.

Price closed the scoring with a pair of free throws after time ran out.

**Hawks 120, Mavericks 106**  
Dominique Wilkins scored 40 points, including six in a second-quarter run that gave Atlanta control of the game.

It was the 14th time this season Wilkins scored 40 or more points. It had been 131 games, the longest such streak in the NBA since an opponent scored 40 or more against the Mavericks. The last to do it was Sleepy Floyd, then with Golden State, who scored 41 points on Dec. 6, 1986.

Wilkins scored his six key points and Antoine Carr added six as Atlanta outscored Dallas 20-7 to turn a 31-28 lead with 10:36 remaining in the second period into a 51-35 bulge late in the period.

Derek Harper led Dallas with 25 points and Rolando Blackman added 22. Mavericks coach

John MacLeod was ejected in the second period — his first ejection since 1979 — after getting his second technical when he protested too vigorously on what he thought should have been a goal-tending call.

**Trail Blazers 136, Spurs 113**  
Clyde Drexler scored 29 points and reserve Rich Anderson made five of seven 3-pointers as Portland snapped a three-game losing streak and handed San Antonio its 12th loss in the last 15 games.

Alvin Robertson scored 25 points and Walter Berry 21 for San Antonio. Kevin Duckworth added 24 points for Portland. Jerome Kersey had 22 and Anderson 21.

## Results

Cleveland	108	New York	103
Atlanta	120	Dallas	106
Portland	136	San Antonio	113
L.A. Lakers	122	Utah	111
Denver	107	Sacramento	103
Seattle	106	Chicago Bulls	103

## Hussein retains crown

LONDON, March 30 (AP) — Mohammed Hussein retained his Commonwealth lightweight boxing championship last night when opponent Brian Roche retired after five rounds with a suspected broken hand.

Roche, a Lancashire school-teacher and a last-minute opponent for Hussein, recoiled in pain as he threw a pair of rights at the end of the fifth, then failed to answer the bell for the sixth. He had broken his right hand twice

before and said, "I think I've gone again with the last punch."

Hussein was well ahead on points when the scheduled 12-round bout at York Hall in north London ended.

He was sharp and aggressive at the start, and by the third round had opened a cut under Roche's left eye with a series of fierce rights and upper-cuts.

Roche was reduced to holding onto Hussein and trying to use his head on the champion.

## US contingent

SEOUL, South Korea, March 30 (AP) — The US Olympic Committee submitted a preliminary plan today to send an 808-member delegation to the Summer Olympic Games in Seoul, organizers announced.

The Seoul Olympic Organising Committee said the entry, which provides for 639 athletes and 169 officials, was the first submitted by a foreign country. One hundred and sixty-one nations are scheduled to compete in the Games Sept. 17-Oct. 2.

## Rain may cause problems for Safari drivers

NAIROBI, March 30 (Reuters) — Rain could again play a big part in Kenya's Safari Rally, starting tomorrow, as Finland's world champion Juha Kankkunen returns to do battle with compatriot Hannu Mikkola.

Rain has washed away part of the most difficult section of the four-day rally, in the Taveta hills southeast of Nairobi, and conditions over the 4,220 kms of rugged African terrain are expected to be demanding.

"There's a lot of mud holes you can get stuck in and a lot of wash-aways," said Sweden's Kenneth Eriksson, one of the leading lights of the strong Toyota team.

With Eriksson on the team are Kankkunen, returning to the rally after a one-year break, and three-times winner Bjorn Waldegaard of Sweden, who led last year for the first three days before dropping out with engine trouble.

Mikkola has swapped his Audi Quattro for an Opel

Kadett. The Audi works team are skipping the rally, fourth round in the World Championships, while they develop a new car.

Two Volkswagen drivers, West German Erwin Weber, driving the same Golf GTI in which he came fourth in 1987, and Swede Lars Erik Torph will also be among the favourites when the 60 cars set out from Nairobi.

The rally, often affected by rain, takes the competitors over rocky escarpments, across grassy plains and stony deserts and through the foothills of Mount Kenya, Africa's second highest mountain.

The competitors have a target time of 42 hours 31 minutes to complete the course but judging by past experience fewer than half the cars will make it to the finish.

The organisers have changed the course from last year's 4,000-km circuit, adding the Indian ocean port of Mombasa and eliminating the western town of Kisumu, where rowdy youngsters throwing stones last year damaged 20 cars.

Mike Doughty, Clerk of the Course, said the new route was designed with a fast competitive section near the start so that a clear leader should emerge within the first hour.

## Dewitt avenges 1984 Games defeat

EDMONTON, Canada, March 30 (UPI) — Canadian heavy weight champion Willie Dewitt avenged an Olympic Games loss to Henry Tillman last night, gaining a unanimous decision in the 10-round fight.

Tillman, who won the gold medal before a hometown Los Angeles crowd at the 1984 Summer Games after beating Dewitt in the medal round, was unable to initiate his kind of fight — working the jab and staying on the outside. Dewitt, who clearly won all but the first and eighth rounds, scored heavily with body blows and uppercuts.

"In the first few rounds, I wanted to go out there and make sure I didn't get caught cold," Dewitt said. "But after that, I felt very confident just walking in, and he wasn't able to hit me as I was coming in."

Dewitt improved to 20-1-1, the only loss coming to American Bert Cooper last year when Dewitt was knocked out early in the match.

"I don't feel like I got hit with much at all tonight," Dewitt said. "I was going under a lot of punches, keeping my hands up and blocking punches. So I feel that my defense has improved a lot." Dewitt said last night's fight was similar to their Olympic matchup. "He fought pretty well the same style, a lot of holding," Dewitt said. "He didn't run as much this time."



Arun (left) receives the trophy from Mahmood Bastaki.

## Sporting defeat Kokan for Blue Star crown

A FINE knock of 68 by captain Arun Nair and a brilliant all-round performance by Mohammed Ali helped Sporting Cricket Club win the Blue Star Cricket Tournament with a two-wicket victory over Kokan at the Safeway ground earlier this week.

Kokan, batting first, managed to score 172. The main scorers were Ziaullah 31, Zakaria 26, Majid 20, Tariq 21, Qasim 15 and Fayyaz 19.

For Sporting, Alex was the most successful bowler with four for 35 while Robin, Praveen, Ramesh and Remy got one wicket each.

Sporting, chasing a modest total were soon in trouble with both their openers back in the pavilion with only 16 runs on the

board. Arun Nair and Mohammed Ali lifted Sporting out of the doldrums by scoring 65 runs for the third wicket. Ali was out after scoring 39.

After Ali's dismissal there was a minor collapse and at one stage Sporting were 141 for seven.

Arun was also out for 68, bowled by Zakaria. Kokan seemed to have the game in their hands but Salim Anwar kept his cool to score an unbeaten 22 as Sporting went past the victory target for the loss of only one more wicket.

For Kokan, Mohammed was the most successful bowler with three for 24. Ibrar took two wickets while Bader, Zakaria and Javed got one each.

After the match, Mahmood Bastaki gave away the prizes. Mohammed Ali took the Man of the Match award.

## Lillee joins Northants

LONDON, March 30 (Reuters) — Former Australian Test bowler Dennis Lillee, who came out of retirement to play Sheffield Shield cricket for Tasmania in the 1987-88 season, will play for English county Northamptonshire this season.

Lillee, 38, confirmed today that he would sign a one-season contract with the county, club secretary Stephen Coverdale said.

Coverdale said the club were

delighted to have recruited one of the game's greatest fast bowlers in the face of competition from several other county sides.

Lillee will be one of two overseas players on Northamptonshire's books. The other is West Indian fast bowler Winston Davis.

Lillee played in the Lancashire League at the start of his career but has never played for an English county.

## Botham talks of hair-raising 'revelations'

PERPIGNAN, France, March 30 (Reuters) — England cricketer Ian Botham was far from humbled following his sacking by Queensland yesterday and promised he would soon have harsh words to say about his experiences in Australia.

Speaking to journalists in Perpignan, where he is due to start a charity walk with elephants across the Alps, the fiery all-rounder commented: "I will ultimately be free to voice revelations, ladies and gentlemen, that will make your hair stand on end."

First fined and then dismissed by Queensland after only one year of his three-year contract because of a series of incidents, including a court appearance where he pleaded guilty to assault, Botham stammered nervously as he read out a prepared statement and said he would not answer questions.

Earlier, before news of his dismissal was known, Botham told reporters he and Queensland had discussed his future a week ago.

"I have every intention of going back (to Australia) at this moment in time. I have no reason to worry about anything," he said.

In Brisbane, Queensland executive chairman Norm McMahon announced after an emergency two-and-a-half hour meeting of the association the decision to dismiss Botham had been unanimous.

## Disputed

Botham's manager, Tom Byron, said he was stunned by the decision.

Meanwhile, Australian cricketers and fans expressed mixed feelings today over Queensland's decision to dismiss Botham.

Queensland Cricket Association (QCA) secretary Grantley Evans said he had received numerous phone calls from disappointed fans over the incident.

"All the calls I've taken this morning have been from irate supporters of Botham," he said.

Yesterday the QCA said Botham had not complied with certain provisions of his contract, forcing the association to end the agreement.

Former Australian and Queensland Test fast bowler Geoff Dymock said he was disgusted by the QCA action.

"I've seen other players do worse things and use extremely foul language and they have not even been reprimanded," Dymock said. "Botham was a great team man. He never tried to entice other players out drinking late at night. In fact, he was usually the first to bed before a match."

Dymock said the fiery English all-rounder was a great attraction to Australian crowds and Australian cricket would suffer from his absence.

But former Australian and Queensland captain Greg Chappell said Botham brought about his own downfall through unacceptable behaviour. "He has no one to blame but himself," he told reporters.

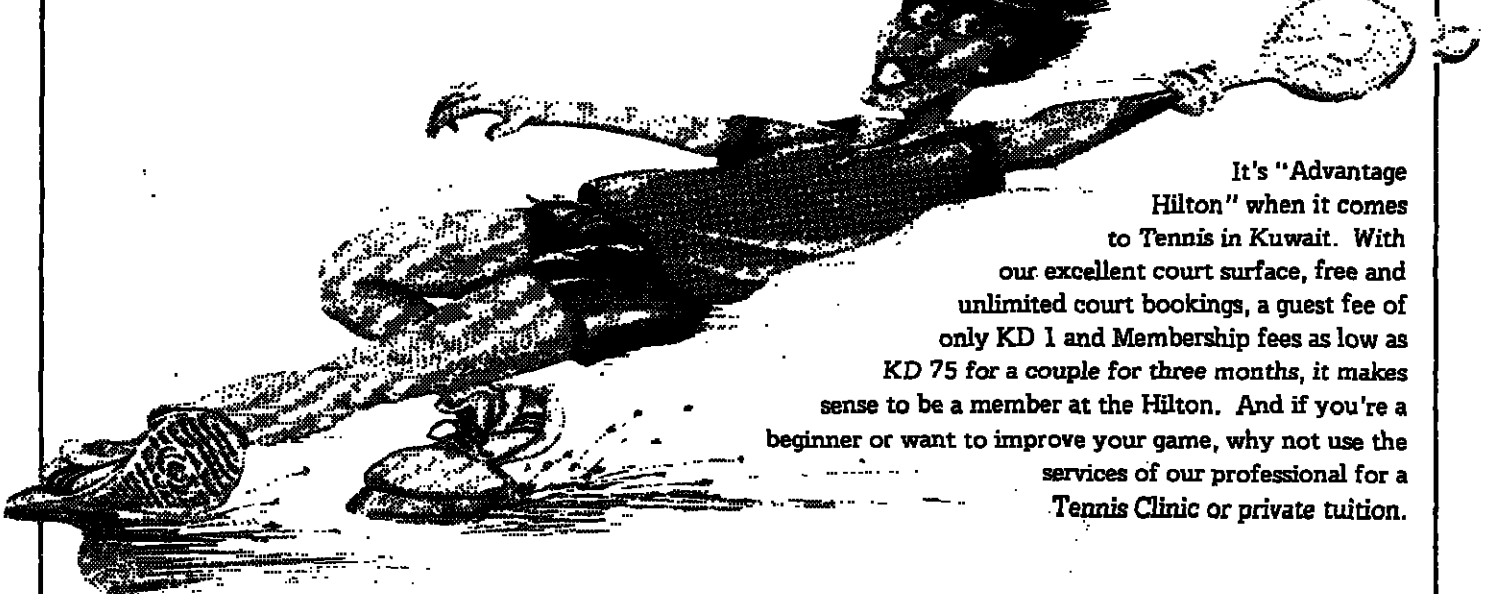
## Australia takes neutral stance

SYDNEY, March 30 (Reuters) — The Australian Rugby Union (ARU) said today it would not stop any player from joining a World XV tour of South Africa.

Executive director John Dedrick told Reuters the ARU would leave the decision to individuals, but so far no Australian player had been invited to join the world team.

"We take a neutral stance. We neither approve nor disapprove and leave the decision to individual players," Dedrick said.

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## GILBERT UPSETS WIMBLEDON CHAMPION

## Angry Becker overcomes Gomez



Becker edged Gomez

DALLAS, March 30, (UPI): West German Boris Becker overcame an early fit of temper last night and downed Andres Gomez of Ecuador in the quarterfinals of the World Championship of Tennis, 6-4, 3-6, 6-2, 6-4.

Becker will return tomorrow night for a semifinal match against Brad Gilbert, who despite a sore ankle that almost forced him to default, upset defending Wimbledon champion Pat Cash of Australia, 7-6, 4-6, 7-6, 6-4.

## Arguments

This evening's quarterfinals was to send Tim Mayotte against Yannick Noah and Stefan Edberg against Martin Jaita.

Twice in the second set, which he lost, Becker had brief, but loud arguments with umpire Richard Jones of Australia about what he felt were bad line calls.

Then, in the second game of the third set, Gomez failed to win a point on his own serve and Becker dominated most of the rest of the match.

Even though Gomez broke Becker's serve twice in the fourth set, Becker broke Gomez three

times.

Gilbert's ankle was in a cast for a month late last year after he injured it at the Masters, where he lost to Ivan Lendl in the semifinals.

Cash, the defending Wimbledon champion and a winner over Gilbert in four of their five previous meetings, gave Gilbert hope throughout the night with a series of unforced errors and then let his opponent off the hook in the third set when he could not convert two set points.

Gilbert, who early in the match looked toward a friend in the crowd and mouthed the words, "I'm not going to make it," won a match that lasted three and a half hours.

Despite the fact Gilbert shows signs of pain from the opening games of the match, Cash could not capitalise and lost 10 straight points on his own serve during the middle of the first set.

Another rash of unforced errors by Cash in the first-set tiebreaker gave Gilbert a 7-3 decision.

There was only one service break in the second set and Cash served for the third set in the 10th game, only to lose two set points.

Gilbert won the tiebreaker at the end of that set, 7-1.

The two players exchanged service breaks early in the fourth set and Gilbert then broke Cash in the ninth game, ripping a cross-court forehand for the game winner.

Serving for the match in the 10th game, Gilbert recorded two aces and then, after letting one match point slip away, produced a serve that Cash could not handle to finish off the unexpected victory.

"Sure, it hurt. I wasn't enjoying it to tell you the truth. It's the first time I've played in a long time and I didn't know what to expect. I sure didn't expect to play as well as I did."

## Decided

Gilbert won 70 per cent of his first serves and Cash said it was Gilbert's serving game that decided the match.

"I thought he served extremely well," said Cash. "In fact, I can't remember when someone served that well against me. It might be that he thought he couldn't move around too well so he decided to pull all he could into his. If that is what he wanted to do, it certainly worked."



Evert brushes aside Torres

## Evert routs Torres in Florida tourney

LARGO, Fla., March 30, (Reuters): Top seed Chris Evert coasted past fellow American Michelle Torres 6-2, 6-0 yesterday, but third seed Claudia Kohde-Kilsch turned in a half-hearted performance and was upset in the first round of the \$200,000 Florida Tennis Open.

Argentine Federation Cupper Bettina Fulco scored a surprise 6-2, 6-1 victory over the ninth-ranked West German, who never seemed into the match.

Fulco, ranked 36th in the world, raced out to a 4-0 second set lead and though Kohde-Kilsch managed to hold serve in the fifth game, she just appeared to give up.

Eighth-seed Judith Wiesner of Austria was the only other seed to fall, losing to West German Wiltrud Probst 6-1, 6-4.

Bulgaria's Maleeva sisters

crushed into the second round. The elder Manuela, seeded second, consistently passed Mercedes Paz of Argentina for a 6-3, 6-0 victory, while fifth seed Katerina destroyed American qualifier Katrina Adams 6-0, 6-0.

Sixth-seeded Sylvia Hanika of West Germany was also untested as she crushed American Lisa Bonder 6-1, 6-0.

Torres, who won this tournament in 1984, broke Evert in the first game of the match, but managed to win only one more game when she held serve for 2-4 in the first set.

Evert controlled the long baseline rallies of the one-hour 15 minute match and scored often with well-placed drop shots.

"It could have been closer. We had a lot of duce and ad games," Evert said, but added: "Michelle doesn't have any big weapons."

## Sweden opt for fast surface against Czechoslovakia

STOCKHOLM, March 30, (Reuters): Defending champions Sweden today announced an expected line-up for their Davis Cup world group quarterfinal against Czechoslovakia.

Non-playing captain Hans Olsson named Mats Wilander, Stefan Edberg, Anders Jarryd and Mikael Pernfors for the tie in Norrkoping from April 8-10.

Sweden used slow indoor clay courts in victorious Davis Cup finals against the United States in 1984 and against India last December.

But the adaptability of their current squad is shown by the fact that they have opted for a fast felt carpet surface against Czechoslovakia.

Olsson said he hoped the surface would give his players the

edge over clay court specialist Miloslav Mecir, nicknamed "Swede-killer" after a history of upsets against the best Swedish players.

World number two Wilander, who pulled out of this week's WCT finals in Dallas because of an ankle injury, is expected to recover in time to play singles in the Norrkoping tie.

"I have not spoken to Mats, but I have had a word with his coach and he is not at all worried about the injury," Olsson said.

Edberg, ranked third in the world, is expected to take the other singles slot and team up with Jarryd for the doubles. That would confine Pernfors, runner-up in the recent Memphis Grand Prix tournament to lead moral support from the sidelines.

## Vialli spearheads Italian attack

SPLIT, Yugoslavia, March 30, (Reuters): Striker Gianluca Vialli, already considered a veteran at 24, again spearheads the Italian attack as the young side warm up for the European Championship finals with a friendly against Yugoslavia tomorrow.

Vialli, who plays for Sampdoria, has scored nine times in 12 matches for Italy over the past year, including twice in a 4-1 defeat of the Soviet Union last month.

Manager Azzoglio Vicini has kept faith with the young players who outlasted the Soviet Union and is more concerned with the shaping of a side which will see him through to the 1990 World Cup finals on home soil than with the outcome of tomorrow's friendly.

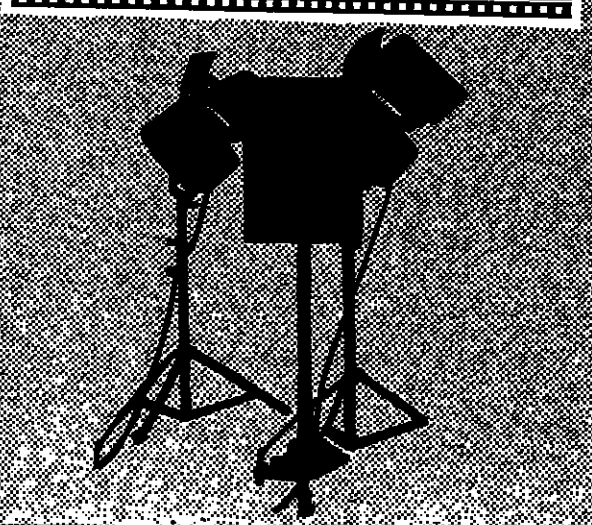
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## Wimbledon hold Everton to 2-2 draw

LONDON, March 30, (Reuters): Wimbledon managed a 2-2 draw at Everton in the English soccer championship yesterday despite having defender Vinny Jones sent off in the 73rd minute.

Jones, playing his first game after suspension, was ordered off for a foul on Peter Reid.

It was a disappointing climax to a game which had produced four goals in an exciting opening 24 minutes.

Wimbledon took a shock third minute lead through Laurie Cunningham but Everton levelled with an 18th minute Trevor Steven penalty.

Neil Pointon fired Everton ahead but Wimbledon's fighting qualities were rewarded when Dennis Wise headed home.

Everton remained third in Division One behind runaway leaders Liverpool and Manchester United.

Colin West saved Chelsea from humiliation in a 1-1 draw against bottom club Watford.

## Results

English Division One	
Chelsea	1 Watford
Everton	2 Wimbledon
Luton	4 Portsmouth

## English Division Three

Aldershot	2 Blackpool
Rochdale	2 Cardiff
Torquay	0 Swansea

## Standings

English Division One	
----------------------	--

	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Liverpool	23	1	7	69	15	76
Manchester U	17	5	11	51	31	62
Everton	17	7	9	46	21	60
QPR	16	9	7	39	32	55
Notts Forest	15	6	9	53	27	54
Arsenal	15	8	4	46	28	53
Wimbledon	13	9	10	48	36	49
Tottenham	11	14	10	35	42	43
Sheffield Wed	13	16	4	39	53	43
Southampton	10	13	10	39	44	40
Coventry	10	12	10	38	44	39
Newcastle	9	10	12	38	44	39
Norwich	11	16	6	34	43	39
Luton	11	12	5	40	38	38
West Ham	8	12	12	32	43	35
Derby	8	13	11	28	34	35
Chelsea	8	15	11	43	59	35
Charlton	7	15	11	32	47	32
Portsmouth	6	13	12	27	48	30
Oxford	6	15	10	39	62	28
Watford	5	17	9	20	42	24

## Pakistan score 221 in one-day game

## Miandad slams W. Indies for ton

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, March 30, (Reuters): Pakistan were indebted to a brilliant innings of 67 by opener Rameez Raja and a magnificent unbeaten 100 by Javed Miandad as they reached 221 for seven off 43 overs in the fifth and final one-day international against West Indies today.

## Felt

Miandad reached his sixth one-day hundred with a single off the last ball of the innings but earlier had incensed the West Indians when, having made only 13, he trod on his wicket after being forced onto the back foot by Winston Duncan.

Umpire Duncan, at square leg, failed to notice that the leg ball was dislodged but the home team clearly felt Miandad should have walked.

Having been put in to bat, Pakistan must have been disappointed they did not make a bigger score. Despite losing Shoaib Mohammad, caught behind for a duck in Malcolm Marshall's second over, and Aamer Malik, needlessly run out for six going for a leg bye off a no-ball, a solid foundation had been established at 86 for two after 20 overs.

They lost two wickets to Tony Gray at 94 when Rameez was bowled off an inside edge and next ball Salim Malik was brilliantly caught by Benjamin diving forward at backward square leg.

Skipper Imran Khan, who made 17 before he was run out, helped in a fifth-wicket stand of 66 but none of the later batsmen could stay with Miandad for any length of time.

Rameez's cavalier knock off 79 balls, which gave the innings its early momentum, contained a dozen boundaries hit to all parts of the ground. He was in full flow when Gary cut one back to bowl him.

Miandad was on 90 at the start of the final over bowled by Courtney Walsh, who must have been revisited by memories of his disastrous last overs in the World Cup in October as he gave away runs to the Pakistani batsman.

Two fours and two singles took Miandad to a memorable century scored off only 99 balls and containing 10 fours.

## Scoreboard

PAKISTAN: Rameez Raja b Gray ..... 67

Shoaib Mohammad c Dujon b Marshall ..... 0

Aamer Malik run out ..... 6

Javed Miandad not out ..... 100

Salim Malik c Benjamin b Gray ..... 0

Imran Khan run out ..... 17

Ejaz Ahmed b Walsh ..... 10

Wasim Akram c Haynes b Gray ..... 0

Ijaz Faqih not out ..... 6

Extras (b-3 lb-7 nb-5) ..... 21

Total (seven wickets, 43 overs) ..... 221

Fall of wickets: 1-1 2-41 3-94 4-94

5-160 6-183 7-184

Did not bat: Abdul Qadir, Salim Jaffer

Bowling: Marshall 10-2-41-1,

Walsh 10-2-50-1, Gray 10-0-43-3,

Benjamin 7-0-32-0, Hooper 6-0-45-0.

## Late news

West Indies beat Pakistan by seven wickets. West Indies scored 225 for three off 37 overs.

## Swiss support English clubs' return to Europe

GENEVA, March 30, (Reuters): The Swiss Football Association (SFV) strongly supports the readmission of English teams to the three European club competitions, an official said today.

SFV general secretary Edgar Obertuerfer said: "We are 100 per cent for the return of English clubs. We have missed them badly during the past three seasons."

"We have always had good relations with the English soccer authorities and are looking forward to seeing their clubs back in Europe."

Obertuerfer said the European Football Union (UEFA), which will decide whether to allow English clubs back into the Champions' Cup-Winners' and UEFA Cup competitions at an executive committee meeting in St Andrews, Scotland on May 3, was aware of the SFV standpoint.

Member countries have been asked by UEFA to indicate their views on playing English teams before the St Andrews meeting. English clubs have been banned from Europe since 1985 when Liverpool fans were largely blamed for the deaths of 39 people in riots before the European Cup final in Brussels on May 29.

## RESULTS of Sheraton Bridge Club game held on Tuesday at Messiah Beach Hotel.

- N/S  
1. Adly Tiab & Magdi Meslari  
2. Dr Hassan Zaid & Ibrahim Qattan  
3. Ignace Meouchi & Marcel Zanairi  
E/W  
1. Mrs Rita Canacini & Mrs Donna Matera  
2. Ravi Bhatt & Desmond Pereira  
3. Mrs Beatrice Pereira & Aubrey D'Souza

A team of four bridge tournament will be held at the Continental Hotel tomorrow at 3.00 pm.

## Inter-bank squash

AL AHLI Bank meet National Bank of Kuwait in the finals of the National Bank of Kuwait Inter-bank Squash Tournament this evening. The finals, which will be held at the Kazma Sports Club, will start at 5.00 pm.

## Italians consider disciplinary action

ROME, March 30, (Reuters): Italy's Athletics Federation will meet next week to consider disciplinary action against six officials implicated in result-fixing by an inquiry into the men's long jump at last year's World Championships in Rome.

A spokesman for the Federation (Fidal) said today that the 15-member ruling council, headed by Italian and International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) president Primo Nebiolo, would meet in Rome to examine the findings on

April 9.

Action against the six could range from censure to a life ban from athletics if the council accepts allegations of misconduct.

## Falsely

Nebiolo was not named by the inquiry, ordered by Italy's Olympic Committee, but has come under media pressure to resign as a result of the scandal after 19 years as Fidal president.

Senior federation sources said

## Nebiolo had no intention of quitting.

"The federal council won't be considering Nebiolo's resignation. Nobody at Fidal believes there is any reason from him to resign," one source said.

Italy's Olympic Committee demanded action against six Fidal officials — national coach Enzo Rossi and five judges — after the inquiry found a bronze medal jump by Italy's Giovanni Evangelisti at the championships had been falsely measured.

## Pakistan defeat Britain

LAHORE, Pakistan, March 30, (Reuters): Zahid Sharif moved Pakistan a step closer to winning the Champions Trophy for the first time in eight years, by leading them to a 1-0 victory over Britain in their fourth match of the hockey tournament.

The win put them one point clear in the standings in the six-nation tournament.

Pakistan need to beat world champions Australia in their final match on Friday to

win the trophy.

Holders West Germany were in second place after beating Spain 3-1 to put them two points ahead of Australia.

## Standings

(Tableau under played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against and points)						
Pakistan	4	3	1	0	8	2
W. Germany	4	3	0	1	8	1
Australia	4	2	1	1	5	3
Soviet Union	4	1	2	1	6	4
Spain	4	1	0	3	4	2
Britain	4	0	0	4	2	0

## World Cup

ROME, March 30, (Reuters): A last-minute agreement over the siting of an international broadcasting centre should avert the threat of the 1990 World Cup soccer finals being moved out of Italy, organisers said today.

After months of wrangling with environmental groups and Rome City Council, Italy's state broadcasting company Rai agreed to change the site of the proposed building from parkland on the banks of the Tiber River to a disused brickworks north of the city.

## Maradona heads cast of West Berlin festival

WEST BERLIN, March 30, (Reuters): Diego Maradona, accompanied by seven of the supporting players who helped Argentina win the 1986 World Cup, heads the cast of a dazzling soccer festival when the West Berlin four-nation tournament starts tomorrow.

Logic suggests that Saturday's decider should be a replay of the World Cup final in Mexico's Aztec stadium when Argentina beat West Germany 3-2.

## Ideas

But the Soviet Union and Sweden are bringing strong teams and they may have other ideas about who will emerge as the winners of the first four-nation tournament to be staged by the West Germans.

The tournament opens with Argentina meeting the Soviet Union and the West Germans facing the Swedes. The losers meet in a third-place play-off on Saturday which will be followed by the final.

All matches are being played in West Berlin's Olympia stadium.

Though all eyes will inevitably be on Maradona's extravagant skills, there will be more than a passing interest in the form of European championship hosts West Germany as well as the Soviet Union, who also play in the eight-nation finals which start in 10 weeks.

But the soccer world would also like to know where Argentina stand, two years on from Mexico and two years before they defend their world title in Italy.

Trainer Carlos Bilardo has kept the nucleus of his team together, though he will be lacking striker Jorge Burruchaga who scored the winner in the Aztec stadium. Burruchaga was not released by his French club Nantes.

West Germany, appearing for the first time in their new strip of red, black and gold — the colours of the national flag — are hoping for an upturn in their fortunes.

The West Germans have been unconvincing since a fine 3-1 win over England in September and trainer Franz Beckenbauer wants a morale-boosting tour-

nament win to give the side impetus before the European championship when the hosts are condemned to start as favourites.

But injury may rule out forwards Pierre Littbarski and Klaus Allofs and force Beckenbauer to experiment again.

The Soviet Union arrived with a team packed with Dynamo Kiev players but without trainer Valery Lobanovsky who is ill. They beat Greece 4-0 last week and striker Oleg Protasov, who scored twice in Athens, is in great form.

In Greece, 1986 European Footballer of the Year Igor Belanov played alongside him in an exciting front line.

## Sturdiest

Sweden, under trainer Olle Nordin, may be the best European team who have not qualified for June's championship and their defence could well prove to be the sturdiest of the four in West Berlin.

Nordin has been able to call on most of his exiled players, including Ajax Amsterdam stopper Peter Larsson and sweeper Glenn Hysen of Fiorentina.



Maradona: the top star of the festival

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Botham walk

PERPIGNAN, France, March 30, (AP): Controversial British cricket star Ian Botham and three elephants set off on an 800-kilometre charity walk today, following the route of the legendary Carthaginian General Hannibal that will take them from southwestern France through the Alps to Turin in northern Italy. But after eight kilometres, all three Asian cow elephants, on loan from the Italian national circus, were pulled out of the walk after one, Salambo, went lame.

## United striker

MANCHESTER, England, March 30, (Reuters): Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson warned yesterday that his unsettled striker Norman Whiteside will cost a lot more than £1 million (\$1.87 million). "I have heard that figure mentioned and it's ridiculous," said Ferguson. "He is worth a lot more than that."

## Games qualifier

PIOTRKOW, Poland, March 30, (Reuters): Poland beat Romania 1-0 (halftime 0-0) in an Olympic soccer qualifying European Group A tie today. Scorer: Marek Lesniak. (84th min). Attendance: 15,000.

## Arias triumphs

HOUSTON, March 30, (UPI): Two-time defending champion Jimmy Arias beat hometown favourite Richey Reneberg in the first round yesterday of the \$200,000 River Oaks international tennis tournament, which was hampered for the second straight day by swirling winds and rain. Arias, seeded 12th, was pressed in both sets by Houston's Reneberg before winning 7-5, 6-4.

## Exhibition tennis

GENEVA, March 30, (Reuters): Wimbledon champion Pat Cash of Australia and former French Open title-holder Yannick Noah of France will